

VOLUME 53

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ISSUE 3

# WOFFORD

TODAY







#### PRINTMAKING EXHIBIT DISPLAY

Erin Mancini '21, an art history and history double major from Knoxville, Tenn., curated "The Art of Printmaking: Global and Historical Approaches," now on display in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. The exhibit, which features different styles of printmaking and historical methods of production dating back to the Renaissance and 19th-century Japan, is Mancini's art history capstone project. Read more at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday).



# WOFFORD TODAY

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## MORE WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

f i t @woffordcollege

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a year! On April 6, 2020, the college moved to remote learning for the remainder of the spring semester because of the pandemic. We issued room and board refunds, postponed then canceled Commencement for the Class of 2020, and began planning to bring our community back together on campus for classes in the fall. Beginning in the summer, we reexamined our successes and began reckoning with real challenges in the area of justice, equity, diversity and inclusion, and we launched a new strategic vision process that remains ongoing.

Have we made everyone happy during this time? Have we done everything perfectly? No, but we — faculty, staff, trustees and supportive alumni — have kept our focus on students, health, safety and the college's mission and core values. Our campus community has worked together to stay together, and we have developed additional reserves of resilience while honing our ability to innovate and adapt. It's been a tough semester, but enrollment is thriving and the college remains strong.

Then, on Feb. 24, Jerry Richardson '59 announced a \$150 million gift to the college's endowment. What a boost! There is much work to be done as we gradually integrate the proceeds from the fund into the operating budget over the next five years, but the impact will touch and strengthen Wofford in every way imaginable.

I invite you to read more about this incredible gift and the students, faculty and staff who are boldly leading our college toward a future that looks even brighter than ever before because of the lessons learned during the pandemic and Mr. Richardson's generosity and loyalty to his alma mater.

It has truly been a remarkable year, and an incredible time to be a Terrier! We have much to look forward to!



Nayef H. Samhat

11TH PRESIDENT OF WOFFORD COLLEGE



President Samhat became a grandfather — and Prema a grandmother — in February when Ethan and Jehan Samhat Wills welcomed twins Charlie and Henry.





Where  
thought  
leads.

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Wofford Men of Color put thought into action when they mobilized the campus community to collect and deliver blankets and personal hygiene items to Miracle Hill Rescue Mission near the campus. When the packing was done, Ellis Goodwin '22, president of Wofford Men of Color and a biology major from North Charleston, S.C., told volunteers that in 10 minutes, they had made a change in the world.

Goodwin's words resonated with Taylor Lawson '21, a sociology and anthropology major from Columbia, S.C. "Homelessness is everywhere," Lawson says. "I feel like some people are not aware of how big a problem it is in Spartanburg. This is an opportunity for us to give back. A little help could make a difference in someone's life."

*Read more online at [wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday).*



# WHERE THOUGHT LEADS AT WOFFORD

Read more about these and other stories online at  
[wofford.edu/woffordtoday](http://wofford.edu/woffordtoday).



## WELLNESS DAYS LIGHTEN THE LOAD

Four Wellness Days were scheduled for the campus this spring semester to reduce burnout associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The idea was pitched by Perry Vandiver Henson '96, director of counseling and accessibility services. The days include fun activities, including exercise classes, visits from goats and opportunities to show gratitude.

*Read more online.*



## CELEBRATING ANOTHER BANNER ADMISSION YEAR

Applications for first-year students continue to rise. In January, applications were up 5.3% on top of the 9% increase experienced by the college for the first-year students arriving in the fall of 2020. "This year we were uncertain what we would see," says Megan Tyler '14, the college's director of admission. "To have an increase coming off a record year positions us really well to enroll a strong class for next fall." Above: Bailey Bryson '24 on move-in day 2020.

*Read more online.*



## WOFFORD SHARES CAREER OUTCOMES REPORT

Did you know 98% of Wofford's graduates have a positive career outcome — are employed, pursuing postgraduate education, serving in the military, participating in a long-term volunteer opportunity or taking an intentional gap year — within six months of graduation?

*Read more online.*



## WALL STREET JOURNAL TALKS TO WOFFORD'S CFO

Wofford's Chief Financial Officer Chris Gardner was interviewed by The Wall Street Journal for a story focused on colleges refinancing debt to take advantage of reduced interest rates. Saving money on debt service provides opportunities to redirect resources back into supporting the college's ongoing mission.

*Read more online.*





## REVELING IN SHERLOCK HOLMES

It's no great mystery that Dr. Tracy Revels is a big fan of Sherlock Holmes. She has been reading about, talking about and writing about the super sleuth since she was 11 years old. So, it seems elementary that she would be inducted into the Baker Street Irregulars, a New York-based, invitation-only literary society dedicated to all things Holmes.

*Read more online.*



## VANDERHILL HEADING TO D.C.

Dr. Rachel Vanderhill, chair of the Department of Government and International Affairs, will spend a year working in the U.S. federal government beginning in the fall of 2021. Vanderhill accepted the Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship for Tenured International Relations Scholars.

*Read more online.*

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## SNAPSHOT



## WOFFORD BEGINS FIRST FACULTY-LED STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

Students will have an opportunity to study abroad with familiar faces in the fall during the college's first faculty-led study abroad program in Freiburg, Germany. Dr. Mark Ferguson '94, professor of theatre, will serve as faculty-in-residence. He will lead excursions, advise students and connect them to resources to support their integration into the local community.

*Read more online.*



## ***TERRIERS***

No. 12, Jamari McDavid '21, a biology major from Springfield, Ohio, was named to the All-SoCon Third Team and is the recipient of the Ann Lashley Inspiration Award. The award is given to a Southern Conference player or coach who, when challenged by a life-altering situation, used grace, perseverance, dedication and determination to face the event and serve as a role model to give hope and inspiration to others in similar situations. No. 14, Lilly Hatton '23, a biology major from Jeffersonville, Ind., was named to the All-SoCon Second Team and to the All-Tournament First Team. The women's basketball team made it to the Southern Conference Tournament final for the first time in program history.









# The <sup>he's</sup> miles traveled

A CONVERSATION *with*  
Jerry Richardson

'59





BY JO ANN MITCHELL BRASINGTON '89





**Among the original art and personal memorabilia in Jerry Richardson's Charlotte, N.C., office is a photo of a humble clapboard house.**

Richardson grew up in the Spring Hope, N.C., home with no running water, no electricity, limited transportation and no access to health care. Two framed tobacco leaves, a gift from his son-in-law, hang above the photo as a reminder of Richardson's youth spent working the tobacco fields.

"See that house?" Richardson asks, pointing from his seat at the polished conference table to the photo that hangs by the door. "Think about the miles I've traveled from that house to being able to make a significant gift to Wofford."

It's almost unbelievable, but it also explains what's at the heart of Richardson's \$150 million contribution to the Wofford College endowment.



**Jerry Richardson '59 and President Nayef Samhat beside the photo of Richardson's childhood home. The photo was taken after Richardson signed the paperwork necessary to make the \$150 million gift official.**



President Nayef Samhat and Richardson Scholars (from left) Andrew White '22, Jackson Barton '23, Alec Schrader '24, Hope Moreno '25 and Jurnee Jones '21 presented a thank you banner signed by the campus community to Mr. Richardson following the \$150 million gift.

The gift has four parts (see adjacent story).

---

## 1

The bulk — \$110 million — funds scholarships for students with financial need. Richardson came to Wofford after his high school coach Bob Prevatte '50 secured a partial football scholarship for him. Richardson took that opportunity, played well, studied hard and turned that partial scholarship into a full scholarship. This gift is Richardson providing that same opportunity for others.



---

## 2

Another bucket funds internship, research, entrepreneurial and study abroad experiences. Richardson values learning and doing, but these high-impact experiences would have been out of his reach as a student. Now students who have to work all summer — either to help support their families or to save money for their next tuition payment — can participate in these opportunities that lead to success after college.

**“Think about the miles  
I’ve traveled from that  
house to being able to  
make a significant gift to  
Wofford.”**







### 3

The gift includes endowment support for Richardson-named buildings on Wofford's campus. The buildings are tangible symbols of how far Richardson has come, and they have helped the college recruit top students because each is beautiful, welcoming, safe and filled with spaces to create, work, play, live and study. The building that Richardson says means the most to him is the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. "It was a gift to my wife, and we took a lot of pride in it," he says. The building also has strengthened ties with the Spartanburg community, something else that's important to Richardson. The two Chihuly glass sculptures as well as the exhibits and plays draw hundreds of visitors each year.

### 4

To Richardson, one of the most meaningful pieces of the gift is a fund to raise the minimum wage on campus to \$15 per hour. Richardson hates traditional corporate organizational charts that show a CEO alone at the top with increasing circles and branches cascading downward so the hourly workers are clustered together along the bottom.

"Org charts were everywhere at Canteen," says Richardson of the vending machine corporation. In a Chicago hotel at a corporate meeting, Richardson had more than his fill of the pieces of paper floating around showing the hierarchical structure. "When it was my time to speak, I did this," he says, turning a hand-drawn example on the table before him upside down. He circled the row of hourly workers that are now at the top. "This is how we sink or swim."



Richardson worked with Wofford President Nayef Samhat on the specifics of the \$150 million gift that's based in student support, meets critical needs at the college and has special meaning for Richardson.

"Anything you give is such a personal thing. It is to me," says Richardson. "I give because I think it's the thing to do. Why wouldn't I do that? Wofford is so important to me."

Through the years, Richardson has credited Bob Prevatte and his Wofford College education with tipping the scales in his favor. In the coming years, this endowment gift will do that for hundreds of Wofford students each year.

"This is a significant amount of money for our family, but without Wofford, I

wouldn't have come to Spartanburg. I wouldn't have married Rosalind. My life would have been so different," Richardson says.

And where would Wofford be without Richardson?

Richardson can't remember his first gift to the college. "It was likely to the Terrier Club," he says. Giving to the college has been a part of the fabric of his life since he graduated. Now Richardson's total lifetime giving to the college exceeds \$262.6 million. Since 1992, 30 Richardson Family Scholars have Richardson to thank for their fully funded college experiences. Four campus buildings and a pavilion in the Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village bear the Richardson name, and Richardson has made major

contributions to at least seven additional capital projects over the years, including a substantial investment in college lighting and safety infrastructure in 2018. He's served on the college's board of trustees for more than four decades, and his giving has inspired generations of alumni to show their gratitude for their Wofford experience by becoming loyal donors.

Richardson remains confident in the future of Wofford College and in the good that Wofford graduates contribute to the world.

"I don't know what they're going to do once they graduate, but I'm sure they're going to do well," he says.

After all, he did.

### Jerome Johnson Richardson '59 timeline of leadership and generosity:

- + Enrolls at Wofford College; joins the football team (1954).
- + Becomes a resident assistant (1956).
- + Serves as president of the Inter-Fraternity Council (1958).
- + Becomes captain of the Terrier football team (1958).
- + Meets with college leaders about making his first major financial commitment to the college, a need-based scholarship for a student-athlete on the football team (1960).
- + Serves as president of the Terrier Club (1976).
- + Begins service on the college's Board of Trustees (1978-1990).
- + Takes first major postgraduate leadership role in helping secure funding for the Campus Life Building project (1979).
- + Accepts selection to Wofford's All-Time Football Team as a receiver (1983).
- + Makes gift to Wightman Residence Hall renovation (1985).
- + Establishes the Richardson Family Scholarship (1988).
- + Receives honorary Doctor of Humanities from Wofford (1991).
- + Accepts reelection to the college's Board of Trustees (1992-2003).
- + Inspires preparation for Wofford to become the summer training camp home of the Carolina Panthers; contributes to the Richardson Physical Activities Building project (1993).
- + Brings Carolina Panthers to Wofford and Spartanburg for training camp (1995).
- + Gives to the Roger Milliken Science Center addition (2001).
- + Contributes to establish the Martha Cloud Chapman Gallery in the Campus Life Building (2005).
- + Establishes the Jerry Richardson Endowed Football Scholarship Fund (2006).
- + Begins final 12-year term on the college's Board of Trustees (2005-2017).
- + Funds renovation of the Richardson Physical Activities Building (2008).
- + Donates to the Joe E. Taylor Athletic Center project (2009).
- + Donates to the Provost's Home/Kilgo-Clinkscales House renovation (2010).
- + Has his college jersey, No. 51, retired during a ceremony on campus (2011).
- + Makes enhancements to the spectator area for Carolina Panthers training camp overlooking the practice fields (2015).
- + Funds construction of the Richardson Family Pavilion in the Stewart H. Johnson Greek Village (2016).
- + Named trustee emeritus (2017).
- + Funds construction of the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts (2017).
- + Funds construction of the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium (2017).
- + Funds enhancements to the Richardson Physical Activities Building (2018).
- + Funds campus lighting and safety infrastructure (2018).
- + Funds construction of Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall (2019).
- + Makes \$150 million gift to the endowment (2021).



# Richardson puts students first with \$150 million endowment gift

## "FORWOFFORD" CAMPAIGN TOTAL EXCEEDS A QUARTER OF A BILLION DOLLARS

Jerome J. Richardson '59 has changed the game again — this time with a gift of \$150 million to the Wofford College endowment.

Richardson's total contributions to the current ForWofford comprehensive campaign now total \$257.3 million, making his total campaign gift the largest recorded to a national liberal arts college and among the top gifts ever to any college or university in the United States. Richardson's lifetime giving to Wofford College now exceeds \$262.6 million.

"Mr. Richardson's loyalty to Wofford College and his commitment to the student experience has been a constant since he came to Spartanburg from Fayetteville (N.C.) High School on a modest football scholarship in 1954," says Wofford President Nayef Samhat. "After he graduated, he gave even when he had very little to give, and throughout his life's journey, he has remembered his alma mater without fail. We are forever grateful for his love of our college and the countless ways this gift will impact our students, our community and ultimately our world."

**The \$150 million endowment gift will be divided into four funds, with the largest being the scholarship fund:**

### **JEROME J. RICHARDSON 2021 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Interest from this fund will fill need-based gaps in financial aid across all classes of students. Need is based on a family's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by annual aid applications such as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the College Board CSS Profile. Only students with unmet need will qualify for this enhancement.

### **JEROME J. RICHARDSON ENDOWED EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FUND**

Proceeds from this endowment will fund off-campus study opportunities, student and faculty research, internships and entrepreneurial learning opportunities. The fund is designed to give preference to students with financial need.

### **JEROME J. RICHARDSON ENDOWED STAFF SUPPORT FUND**

During the first five years of this fund, endowment proceeds will be used to help the college transition the base hourly wages of employees of the college to \$15 per hour. The fund boosts salaries immediately and gives the college five years to budget the cost of alleviating wage compression as it transitions to this base hourly wage. Approximately 70 employees will benefit from the endowed staff support fund. Once the wage increases have been absorbed into the college's budget, the remaining principal and income of the fund will be transferred to the Jerome J. Richardson Endowed Experiential Learning Fund.

### **JEROME J. RICHARDSON ENDOWED BUILDINGS SUPPORT FUND**

Proceeds from this endowed fund will be used for the maintenance, repair and improvement of Richardson buildings: the Richardson Physical Activities

Building, the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts, the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium, the Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall and the Richardson Family Pavilion. This gift ensures that facilities that carry the Richardson name will always be maintained to a superior standard, also alleviating pressure on the college's operating budget.





"These endowed funds will play a crucial role in making a Wofford education affordable and accessible for generations of students while helping the college to extend its support and appreciation for staff members who contribute to the Wofford experience," says Samhat. "Wofford College has a reputation for supporting student success. Since the college was founded in 1854, faculty and staff have used the resources available to them to mentor, advise and inspire students such as Jerry Richardson. Now, because of Mr. Richardson, the full Wofford College experience will be available to even more students, especially those impeded by financial barriers."

Jerry and Rosalind Sallenger Richardson have contributed to 14 capital projects on Wofford's campus since 1979, including three major buildings during the current comprehensive campaign, which launched publicly in October 2018: the 3,400-seat Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium, the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts and Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall, a 150-bed residence hall that opened in the fall of 2020. Their other philanthropic focus at Wofford has been the Richardson Family Scholarship, which provides a full four-year scholarship to one student in each class. The scholarship includes books, a laptop, paid internships and a monthlong study abroad experience.

Richardson many times has credited his Wofford College career with helping him succeed in business and in the NFL.

"Coming to Wofford in 1954 as an 18-year-old with a partial scholarship was a turning point in my life," Richardson says. "It is difficult to put into words how grateful I am for that opportunity and how proud I am of the tremendous progress the college has made since then. My hope is that many more young people will now be able to aim high regardless of their background or financial means."

Richardson was named an Associated Press Little America selection in 1957 and 1958 and still holds three records as a wide receiver for the Terrier football team. He still calls being elected team captain in 1958 as one of his greatest lifetime honors. In 1983, he was chosen to Wofford's All-Time Football team as a receiver. The college retired his jersey, No. 51, in 2011.

As a student, Richardson was a member of Kappa Alpha Order, president of the Inter-Fraternity Council and a member of Blue Key National Honor Fraternity and Scabbard and Blade military fraternity. He was recruited during college to play professional football, but he was determined to finish his degree and complete his college football career with the Terriers. After graduation, he was drafted in the 13th round by the

defending world champion Colts. Richardson played two seasons in the NFL, earning Colt Rookie of the Year honors in 1959 and catching a touchdown pass in the 1959 championship game from Johnny Unitas.

Richardson then embarked on a successful business career with Wofford teammate and Terrier quarterback Charlie Bradshaw '59. From headquarters in Spartanburg, he and Bradshaw co-founded Spartan Foods, which was the first franchisee of Hardee's. Richardson later was the CEO of Flagstar, which was the sixth largest food service company in the nation.

On Oct. 26, 1993, Richardson became the first former NFL player since George Halas to become an owner when the Carolinas were unanimously awarded the NFL's 29th franchise. The Carolina Panthers began play in 1995 and reached the NFC championship game in the 1996 season. The Panthers won NFC championships in 2003 and 2015, advancing to Super Bowls XXXVIII and 50.

Richardson is the only person to be inducted into both the North Carolina and South Carolina Business and Athletic Halls of Fame.

Richardson is married to his college sweetheart, Rosalind Sallenger Richardson. They have been lifelong residents of the Carolinas and have two children, Mark Richardson and Ashley Richardson Allen; their son Jon Richardson died in 2013. Grandson Johnson Richardson '10 played football for Wofford, and granddaughter Rose Richardson Skibek '13 was a student-athlete on the volleyball team.

"Mr. Richardson has always been and continues to be a game-changer," says Samhat. "We are overwhelmingly appreciative that he chose Wofford back in 1954 and that he has continued to support our students and our college's mission."



Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Richardson '59 with Richardson Scholars at the Topping Out Celebration of the Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium. Richardson Scholars from left: Hawkins Shepard '20, Matt Edwards '17, Katie Beuerlein '18 and Omar Elmore '19.



# Leadership's next generation

THE FACES AND PHILOSOPHY OF STUDENT LEADERS

There's nothing easy about leadership. Tough decisions, doubt and criticism are all familiar companions. Leading during a pandemic or during revolution or unrest adds another level of complexity. These students have chosen to lead in spite of the challenges. Some are working within established organizations and long-celebrated channels (Campus Union or the Old Gold and Black student newspaper). Others have recognized a need and have chartered their own student organizations (the Wofford Anti-Racism Coalition or the COVID-19 Student Response Team). They're leading as they learn and learning as they lead and setting an example that even those with much more experience can learn from ... **exactly what you'd expect from Wofford Terriers!**



ALLISON

EYON



## Original members of the COVID-19 Student Response Team

- + JALEN CARTER '21
  - + BRADEN DOWDY '21
  - + MEGAN LEONARD '21
  - + DIERAN MCGOWAN '21
  - + ELENA PULANCO '22
  - + DREW REYNOLDS '21
  - + ALEXIS TOMLIN '22
- 



MEGAN



DIERAN



ELENA

**Megan Leonard '21, biology and Spanish major, Charlotte, N.C.**

"To be a student leader during COVID-19 is to advocate for your peers, to listen well to school and health officials and to be mindful of the impact each individual decision has on the greater Wofford and Spartanburg communities. ... Leadership to me is serving others with the common good of the community in mind, living with integrity and listening intently to community members."



JACOB

## Old Gold and Black editors

- + ALLISON SHERMAN '21
  - + EYON BROWN '21
  - + JACOB HOLLIFIELD '21
- 

**Eyon Brown '21, English major, Francophone studies minor, film and digital media concentration, Columbia, S.C.**

"To me, leadership is not always so much about how much you say, but how much you do, how present you are, and knowing when to lead and when to follow someone else."

**Jacob Hollifield '21, English and history double major, Chesnee, S.C.**

"Being a student leader through the Old Gold and Black means taking responsibility for unheard voices and using a 100% student-led platform to amplify them. Since 1915, the Old Gold and Black has operated as a megaphone that we pass around campus, Spartanburg and — sometimes — the world. Because I am responsible for carrying this baton for a short time, I lead objectively, openly and creatively to produce — with the help of a phenomenal staff — a publication for the entire Wofford community."





OLIVIA



ANSLEY



SANDRA



HECTOR



MARCUS



JULIE



SAM



JAY



DELANEY



JEFFREY

## Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion student researchers

- + OLIVIA FREE '22
- + ANSLEY HARDEMAN '22
- + MEGAN HOLDERNESS '22
- + SANDRA LOPEZ '21
- + HECTOR ORTIZ '21
- + MARCUS REID '21
- + JULIE RODRICK '24
- + SAM SMITH '23
- + JAY STEVENS '22
- + DELANEY WALDEN '21
- + JEFFREY WOODWARD '22



SAVANNAH

JEREMIAH

GRACE

## Entrepreneurs and innovators

- + GRACE GEHLKEN '21
- + JEREMIAH KUBILUS '21
- + SAVANNAH TALLEDO '21

**Grace Gehlken '21, finance and Spanish double major, Charleston, S.C.**

"Leadership in business to me is figuring out how to empower others by encouraging them to use their skills and strengths in order to create a product that will ultimately make the world a better place. I believe that just as we all have unique skills and strengths, we are all leaders in our own unique way and have a lot to learn from each other."

**Jeremiah Kubilus '21, finance major, minors in accounting, music and religion, Gilbert, S.C.**

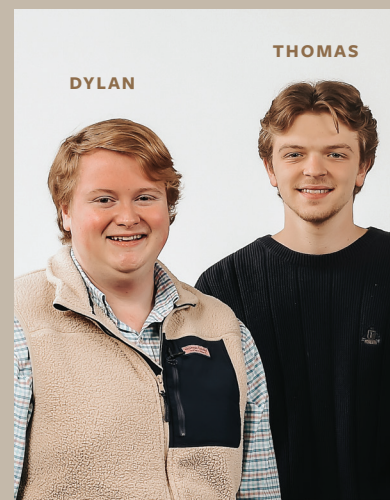
"When those you're leading know that you care greatly about them, honest and occasionally tough communication streams can open and progress can be made."

**Savannah Talledo '21, chemistry and theatre double major, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"Leadership to me is all about communication with the goal of executing a creative vision in a collaborative manner. Having the opportunity to be a member of the LAUNCH community has fostered a nurturing community where I can learn to exercise my leadership abilities in an entrepreneurial setting. I am so grateful for all of the opportunities and learning experiences this program has afforded me during my four years at Wofford."

## Campus Union student government

- + THOMAS CUTTINO '23
- + DYLAN GOSHORN '22
- + TYRUS PEOPLES '21
- + DREW REYNOLDS '21



DYLAN

THOMAS



**Ansley Hardeman '22, psychology major, business and philosophy minor, Athens, Ga.**

"Leadership is being able to transform ideas into a vision by utilizing the strengths of each on the team."

**Hector Ortiz '22, biology, philosophy and Spanish major, medicine and the liberal arts concentration, Saluda, S.C.**

"Working with JEDI, I have been able to get a better understanding of leadership. Leaders readily inspire others, and at JEDI, professors like Dr. Christine Dinkins make it clear that we are all trying to pursue a more inclusive and equitable Wofford. Because of this inspiration, we are all willing to put in this work and strive to make sure that the voices of all students get listened to."

**Julie Rodrick '24, undecided, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"Leadership to me means taking an active role in creating or advancing ideas, whether they be social, political or artistic. Through JEDI I am proud to be taking an active role in that driving force for a more inclusive and equitable community at Wofford and the greater Spartanburg area."

**Jay Stevens '22, accounting, finance and Spanish major, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"Leadership is stepping up and working with others to create a more equitable and inclusive community. While this work is often difficult, it is necessary and requires a team rather than individuals alone."

**Delaney Walden '21, biology and psychology double major with a neuroscience concentration, Goose Creek, S.C.**

"To me leadership is about making the people around you better. Leadership does not require a title, but rather a desire to bring out the best in each situation and person you encounter. Most people see leadership as having power and control, but I believe strongly in servant leadership, in which I am on the same level, doing the same (if not more) work as those that I am leading, providing direction from any position in which I may find myself. Leadership is a daily commitment to achieving goals that are not solely self-serving."

**Tyrus Peoples '21, government major, philosophy minor, Lexington, S.C., student-body treasurer**

"I have always believed that the best way to lead is to serve."

**Drew Reynolds '21, biology, Campus Union president, Sumter, S.C.**

"Being a good leader requires balance. Balancing leading a discussion with hearing the voices of others. Balancing social life with duties and responsibilities. Balancing taking responsibility and allocating tasks. Balancing incorporating new thought processes without compromising your values. Leading by example is important, but good leaders are able to balance their lives in a way that they do not get overwhelmed by the challenges they face each day."



TYRUS

DREW

## Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)

+ HENRY LESESNE '21

+ ELENI OUZTS '21

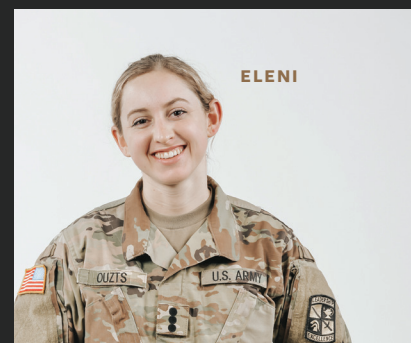
+ ELIZABETH THOMAS '21

**Henry Lesesne '21, international affairs major, economics minor, Charleston, S.C.**

"Leadership is the art of guiding a collective toward a fundamentally good and worthy goal. There are today and have been in the past those who can influence or manipulate a group for some purpose; however, true leadership requires that this purpose be moral."



HENRY



ELENI



ELIZABETH



ABBEY



MORGAN



## Wofford on Call

+ MORGAN LOCKE '21

+ ABBEY WINSLOW '21

Abbey Winslow '21, English major, sociology and anthropology minor, Columbia, S.C.

"Leadership is about being part of a team. You don't always need to be in charge to be a leader. Instead, you should be judging what a team needs from you at any given point and trying to contribute in the most beneficial way."

MAGGIE



HENRY



SARAH



## Sustainability

+ SARAH PEAK '22

Sarah Peak '22, environmental studies and sociology and anthropology double major, Irmo, S.C.

"I believe that we need leaders who are passionate and will be driven to make a change. On campus, my passion for sustainability has led me to become a leader in working to make Wofford a more sustainable community. In order to make a change, we need leaders who will fight for what they believe, and for me, I believe that we have a responsibility to take care of the environment."

## Wofford Anti-Racism Coalition

+ JURNEE JONES '21

+ MARGARET ROACH '21

+ DESTINY SHIPPY '22

+ NAYA TAYLOR '21



JURNEE



MARGARET





JOHN



ASHLYN



GRAYSON

## Managers of the James-Atkins Investment Fund

- + MAGGIE ADCOCK '21
- + JOHN FISHER '21
- + ASHLYN CHESTER '22
- + HENRY LESESNE '21
- + GRAYSON LOFTIS '21

**Maggie Adcock '21, accounting and finance major, economics minor, Vestavia, Ala.**

"I have really enjoyed being a part of the James-Atkins Fund, and leading it this year has given me the privilege to see firsthand all of the hard work that the portfolio managers and research associates put in to make the fund successful. Seeing all of their hard work and collaboration come to fruition at each meeting is one of the best parts of this position. I am also thankful for Dr. Philip Swicegood's constant wisdom and guidance, which has given me the opportunity to enhance my learning and sharpen my leadership skills throughout this unique semester."

**Ashlyn Chester '22, finance major, Roswell, Ga.**

"It has been such a fulfilling experience to lead the alternative investments team for the James-Atkins Fund. To me, leadership is going out of your way to build confidence and encourage your team, raise a peer's performance beyond what they believed they were capable of and humbly serve. The solidarity and resilience of my team this year have surpassed any expectation I could have had, and it sincerely has been an outstanding experience."

**Grayson T. Loftis '21, accounting and finance major, economics minor, Fort Mill, S.C.**

"Don't try to connect all the dots looking forward. Follow your gut, and then you will connect them looking backward."



DESTINY



NAYA

**Jurnee Jones '21, government and sociology and anthropology major, Bluffton, S.C.**

"Being a leader means answering a call from within to take action and having the resolve to see it through. A leader has the ability to recognize people who can offer their experiences and skills in service of a vision that may have begun individually, but that grows collectively. Leadership, like nearly everything in this world, does not work alone."

**Margaret Roach '21, psychology major, concentration in medicine and the liberal arts, Winston-Salem, N.C.**

"I firmly believe that as a leader, I have a duty to be critical, when necessary, of Wofford as an institution as well as to be vocal about issues students face to strive for a more just Wofford and world."

**Destiny Shippy '22, sociology and anthropology major, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"Leadership to me is about being a visible and vocal ally. Creating spaces where people can be their authentic selves and allowing room for improvement. Leadership to me is leading by example and with compassion. Hearing all sides and putting your opinions aside to lead and serve as best as you can."

**Naya Taylor '21, Spanish major, Boiling Springs, S.C.**

"The ascendancy of good over evil is not easy. It requires leadership that is steadfast and persistent in knocking down doors."





## Student Marketing Team

- + SPENCER BLACKWELL '21
- + JACOB HOLLIFIELD '21
- + MATILDA REDFERN '23
- + GRACIE MALCOMB '23
- + RYANA PRIVOTT '24
- + OLIVIA TURNER '23
- + WILLIAM SUTTON '23
- + ARNISE WRIGHT '24

**Ryana Privott, '24, psychology major, pre-law, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"Leadership is about being able to actively listen, then putting forth effort to make meaningful changes in the lives of others. It is about being able to be empathetic. Even though a situation may not directly affect you, it is important to understand that it still deserves your attention. When necessary, leaders are also able to be followers."

**Arnise Wright '24, undecided major, Spartanburg, S.C.**

"As a first-year student at Wofford College, the Student Marketing Team helped me continue my work in leadership. I have always been the type of person to volunteer or help organize events. My daily quote is, 'You will never influence the world by trying to be like it.' I live by this quote because it reminds me that the only way to leave a positive impact is not by following the public, but by leading them in the right direction. Being a part of the Student Marketing Team has allowed me to express my opinions that will promote the college in a positive light to our prospective students, current students and alumni."

## International programs global ambassadors

- + JORDAN HOLMES '21
- + ISAIAH FRANCO '23

**Jordan Holmes '21, Spanish and psychology major, religion minor, Conyers, Ga.**

"Effective leadership involves listening to others more than wanting people to listen to you."

**Isaiah Franco '23, international affairs and Spanish major, Newtown, Pa.**

"In high school, there was an organization that constantly spread the message, 'If not me, then who?' While I did not get the chance to participate, this quote has been so important to me since. For me, leadership is taking on the responsibilities that others avoid. These responsibilities that at first seem so daunting can be chipped away after starting, because if one person takes the lead, others are sure to follow."

## Student Athlete Advisory Council

- + KAREN MAJEWSKI '22 (SOCCER)
- + T.J. NEAL '22 (FOOTBALL)
- + ELENA PULANCO '22 (WOMEN'S BASKETBALL)
- + KELSEY THOMPSON '21 (WOMEN'S TENNIS)
- + ALEXIS TOMLIN '22 (WOMEN'S BASKETBALL)



**KELSEY**

**Karen Majewski '22, biology major, business minor, Mount Pleasant, S.C.**

"I think being a leader is an important skill I have developed as a student-athlete, however, I have learned there are different types of leaders, and sometimes being the most vocal or the best skilled on the team doesn't make you a leader. Leading by example, being the best person you can be and setting the standard for others is the best way to lead those around you. If you are putting out positive energy on and off the field, others will follow."





JORDAN



ISAIAH



OLIVIA

BRANDON

MARISA

## Bonner Scholar leadership team

+ MARISA BARRERA '21

+ OLIVIA FREE '22

+ BRANDON MOLINA '22

Olivia Free '22, sociology and anthropology and Spanish double major, concentration in medicine and the liberal arts, Moncks Corner, S.C.

"As a Bonner Scholar, being a leader is being a bridge builder within the Wofford community and the Spartanburg community. Both of these communities have so much to offer, and a more sustainable environment for all can arise if the relationship is healthy. This is the motivation behind my work in the community."



T.J.



KAREN



ELENA



ALEXIS

T.J. Neal '22, business economics major, Nashville, Tenn.

"Being a leader doesn't mean you have to be the most outspoken. It's all about being available to the people when in need."

Kelsey Thompson '21, accounting major, Mountain Lakes, N.J.

"Leadership means personally setting a good example so that I positively impact and motivate my teammates to accomplish a common goal. It's about setting a common standard of performance and ensuring that each and every one of my teammates lives up to our common goal."

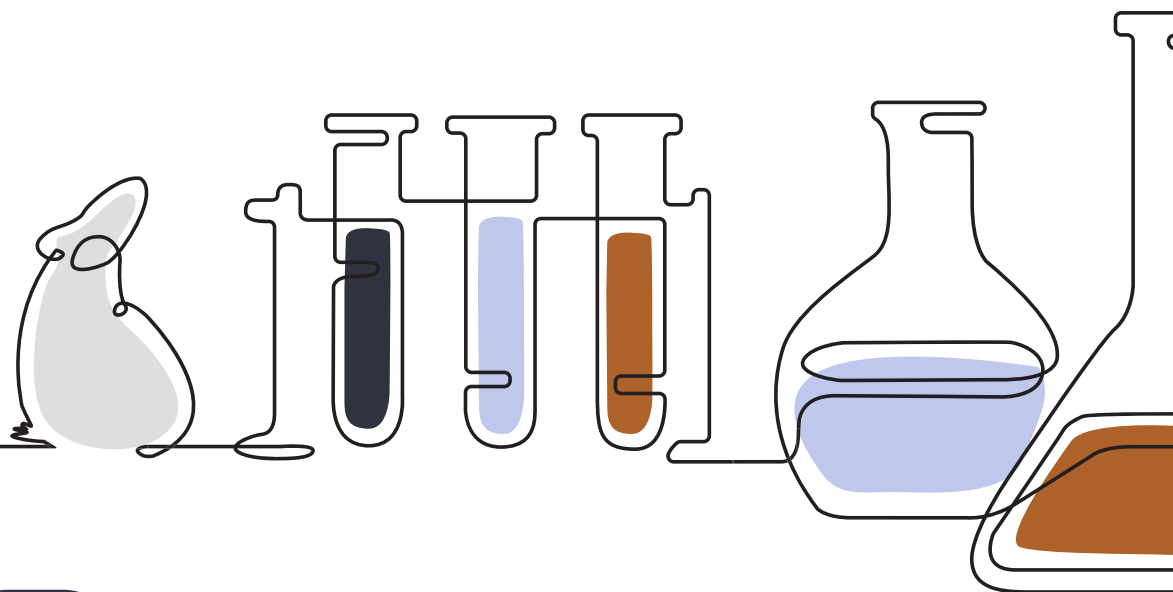
Elena Pulanco '22, art history, sociology and anthropology, and studio art triple major, Englewood, N.J.

"Being a leader means advocating for those around you. Whether your actions are big or small, it's about 'working with' toward change to better the experience for all."

Alexis Tomlin '22, biology and mathematics double major, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

"For me, leadership is about being in tune with those around you and being adamant in your representation of your fellow students by voicing their concerns and needs. Ultimately, our job as a student leader is to strive to make the Wofford experience better for everyone on campus."





# Sweet Research

PITTMAN AWARDED \$400,000 NIH GRANT

## DR. DAVID PITTMAN '94 IS LEADING A REALLY SWEET RESEARCH PROJECT.

Pittman, a professor of psychology and coordinator of the program in neuroscience, has been awarded a five-year, \$400,755 grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct taste research in collaboration with the University of Southern California. Dr. Lindsey Schier and her team at USC discovered a new, second mechanism that can detect glucose in the mouth.

Schier's team will conduct behavioral tests in genetically altered mice to establish the functionality of the glucosensor, while Pittman's group will record from taste neurons in

the brains of those mice. The grant Pittman received will allow his team to do the groundwork that characterizes the neurophysiology of the glucosensor.

"One of the things I find fascinating is that we don't know a lot about taste," Pittman says. "We know a great deal about vision and hearing, but we don't know all the ways our mouths can taste things. There are a lot of really big questions that can be answered."

The study involves performing a delicate surgery on the brains of lab mice. Pittman and his research assistant, Lina Settlemayer '21, have spent countless hours trying to perfect the procedure.

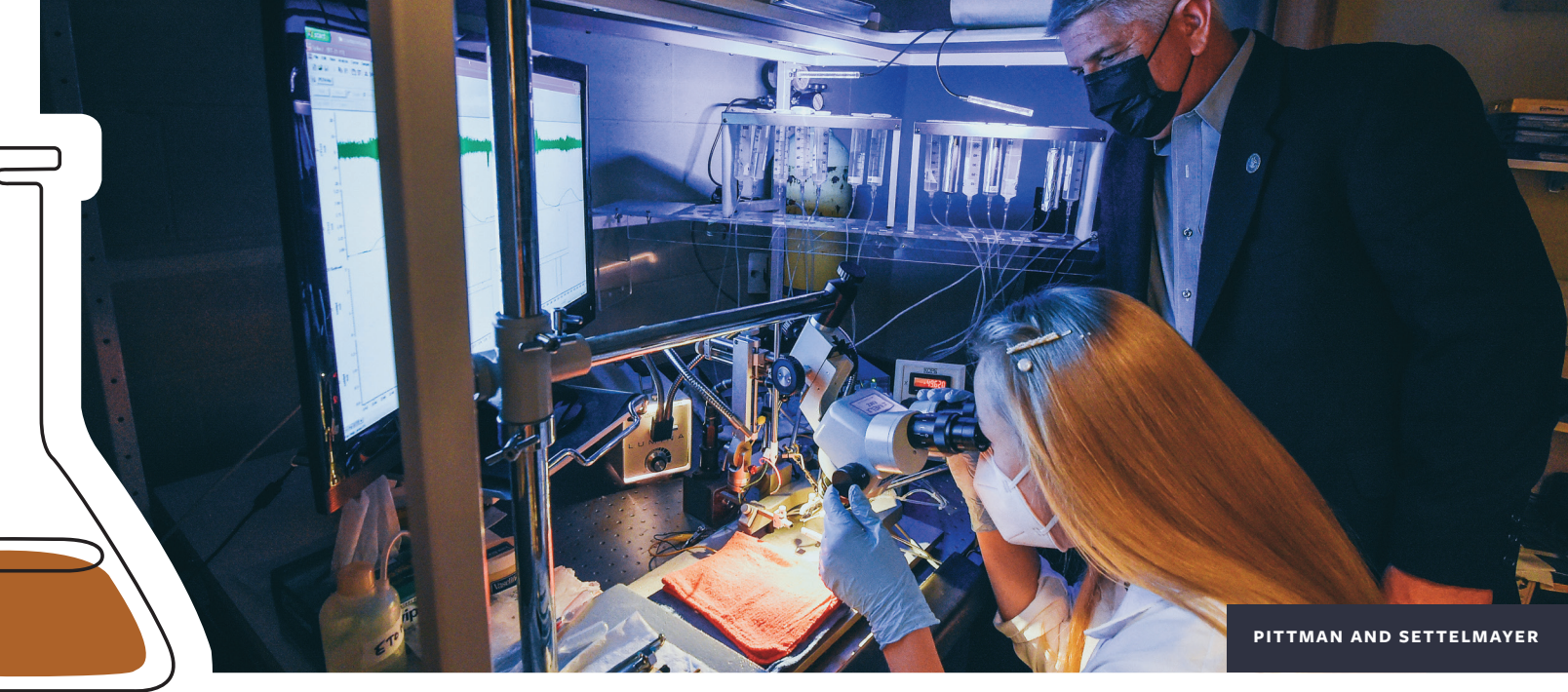
"It's a pretty technical neurosurgery on part of the brain," Pittman says. "The surgery takes an hour or two, and then you can spend another two to four hours searching for the taste neurons. Once you find them you can run the test protocols and record the data."

The study could, eventually, lead to practical strategies for containing sugar consumption in humans.

Settlemayer, a psychology major from Germany, plans to go to medical school after graduation. She says participating in this project has her considering becoming a surgeon.

"The first time I did the whole procedure by myself, I felt the adrenaline as soon as I made the first cut,"





PITTMAN AND SETTELMAYER

Settelmayer says. “My hands were steady, my mind was focused and the mouse survived, and I was so proud.”

Whatever she ultimately decides, she says she’s grateful for the opportunity and experience that Wofford has provided.

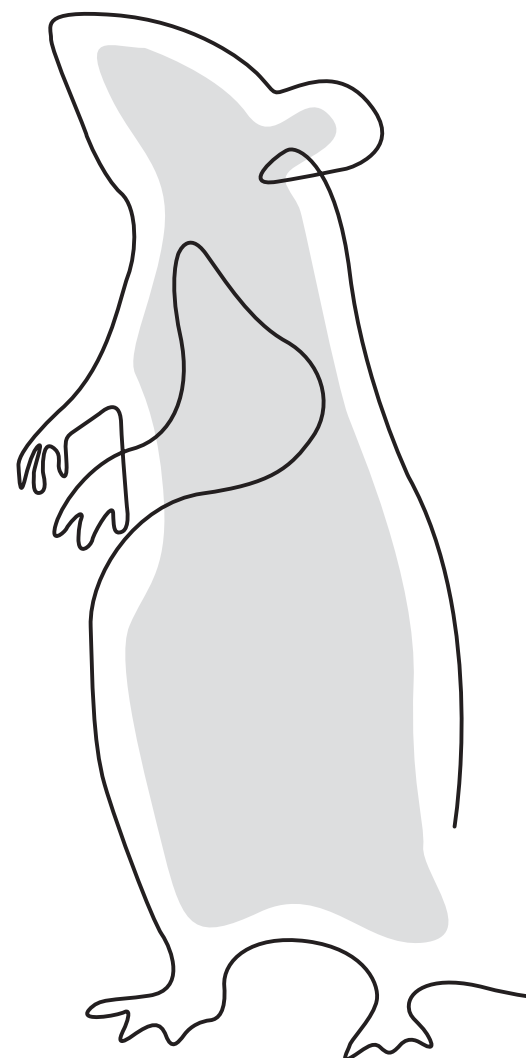
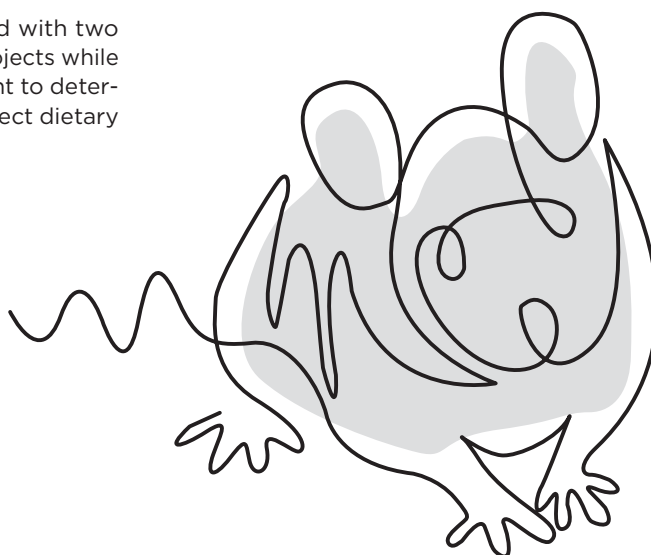
“In my home country I would probably not have the chance to participate in this kind of research because universities are so much bigger and only a few students get the chance to be a research assistant,” Settelmayer says.

Alex Schrader '24, a Richardson Scholar from Fredonia, N.Y., also is part of the team. He came aboard this spring.

Pittman has been involved with two previous taste research projects while at Wofford. The first sought to determine whether rats can detect dietary

fats, how they detect them and how they respond. The second sought to determine how anti-anxiety drugs can act on the taste system and cause people to overeat.

“Wofford is very supportive of research because of the value it gives to students,” Pittman says. “The grant allows students to get paid like a job to learn research skills that will be so valuable after graduation.”



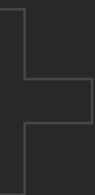


By Robert W. Dalton

*Numbers  
game*

# NUMBERS GAME

Mathematics department beats national  
average for **women in the field**





## The numbers don't lie.

That's especially true of Wofford College's Department of Mathematics, where women hold 50% of the tenure-track faculty positions and represent nearly 68% of majors. Both figures are well ahead of national averages.

According to the American Mathematical Society's Mathematical and Statistical Sciences Annual Survey, women held 37% of the tenure-track positions at undergraduate schools in 2018. About 42% of mathematics majors were women in 2018.



The department has eight tenure-track positions. Dr. Rachel Grotheer became the department's fourth woman when she came aboard this past fall as an assistant professor.

Dr. Charlotte Knotts-Zides, professor, says it has been exciting to see the growth in the number of women in the department.

"I think there is a different perspective that women bring to the math field," she says. "I definitely think our numbers are impressive. It is certainly a reflection of the women in the department as being capable of mathematics. I'm excited that our female students find themselves with these role models."

Dr. Deidra Coleman, who is in her fourth year as an assistant professor at Wofford, says a bias against women in STEM education is a by-product of age-old stereotypes. She says that as a Black woman she has felt discouraged at times as she pursued her career path.

"I get the layer of being a woman and the layer of being a minority in a white-male-dominated field," she says.

Coleman says Wofford provides a more supportive atmosphere for women.

"For us, it's exciting that we are encouraging students who might be underrepresented on a national level to stay in the program," Coleman says. "A lot of times they are majoring in another program, and we will convince them to add math."

When Dr. Joseph Spivey, the chair of the department, arrived at Wofford in 2008, there were only two women in the department: Knotts-Zides and Dr. Angela Shiflet, professor emeritus of computer science. Shiflet also split her time as chair of the computer science department.

Hiring women for the sake of parity was never Spivey's goal. His objective was the

same with each opening: to hire the best candidate from a broad, diverse pool of applicants.

"We know people are likely to be more successful in mathematics if they have a teacher who looks like them," says Spivey. "Women, people of color and other under-represented groups are more likely to see themselves as mathematicians if they have a mentor who looks like them. And the more diverse faculty you have, the more attractive you are to people of all walks of life."

Mathematics has not always been a welcoming field for women. There are some in the field, Spivey says, who still consider women to be inferior at math.

"Hundreds of years ago, women were not even allowed to be educated in mathematics," Spivey says. "That sort of heritage stays with us today. There are a lot of under-represented people who are not mathematicians today because of that. We're losing talent to other fields."

Knotts-Zides says she was never discouraged from pursuing a career in mathematics. But she says she knew there was a difference.

"If there are 12 people in a class and only two or three are women, you knew that you were the unusual," she says.

Caroline Sargent '21 of Easley, S.C., is one of 21 current female mathematics majors, out of a total of 31. She discovered her love for mathematics while taking calculus to fulfill requirements for chemistry, her other major. Spivey encouraged her to continue taking classes in mathematics. She says having female role models in the department is helpful.

"They see the concerns that female students have," Sargent says. "And I get to see how they're balancing things outside of work, and it gives me hope when I see that."

"Women, people of color and other under-represented groups are more likely to see themselves as mathematicians if they have a mentor who looks like them."





# Thanking the heroes

## TAKING ON MORE TO SUPPORT COVID-19 OPERATIONS

*College operations during any academic year involve planning, preparation, flexibility and creativity. The 2020-21 academic year required all of that at a higher degree. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted every aspect of campus life, and everyone's contributions across the campus community have been valuable and necessary. Still, a few departments took on extra duties to safeguard the health and safety of the campus community.*

### Wellness Center

Wellness Center staff started monitoring COVID-19 news and activity before Spartanburg County and South Carolina had a single case. They have played a critical role in caring for students, supporting the campus community's well-being and serving as advisors throughout the year.

*"The Wellness Center has worked diligently this past year. There has been management of care for students, faculty and staff seven days a week, detailed contact tracing and coordination with every department on campus. I couldn't be prouder of the Wellness Center staff and how everyone embraced the work required to support the campus community."*



**Beth Wallace '82, associate vice president for campus life and student development and director of the Wellness Center**





From giving flu shots to delivering food and supplies to students in isolation or quarantine, Lisa Lefebvre, director of employee wellness and medical services, has been vital to the college's pandemic response.





## Housekeeping

When the pandemic hit, the housekeeping staff found itself outnumbered. The department added 15 temporary staff members to work second shift during the week and on weekends, in the Sandor Teszler Library, for example, to ensure that students could continue to use the space for research and study. Their role has been to keep surfaces, chairs, computer equipment, light switches and door handles disinfected in academic buildings and some common areas across campus.

*"We've asked a lot from our staff, including starting their shifts an hour earlier, and housekeepers in residence halls have also been responsible for the college's isolation and quarantine spaces."*

**Jeffrey Burney, director of housekeeping and event services**



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## AVI

Between COVID-19 and construction on the Burwell Dining Hall, keeping everyone fed and safe has been extremely challenging for AVI, Wofford's culinary services partner. The staff adapted quickly, adjusting traffic patterns to ensure social distancing, paying attention to occupancy limits and being prepared at a moment's notice to provide dine-in or carryout meals based on COVID numbers and guidelines.

*"COVID has caused us to have to look at everything we do in a new light. We are very cautious with everything we do in an effort to keep not only our guests, but also our staff safe as well."*

**Cherie Tyger, resident director of culinary services**







Above, Donna Ross and Christopher Carson preparing the baseball stadium for limited fan seating. Below left, AVI remained flexible to student needs throughout the pandemic. Below right, Wayne Gosson and Randy Brown install plexiglass shields in the classrooms in Main Building.



## Facilities

Facilities staff assembled more than 100 plexiglass shields to protect students, faculty and staff from the virus. The project took countless hours and required almost 75 4-foot by 8-foot sheets of plexiglass. They also have maintained a daily list of quarantine spaces. The grounds team has continued to work in person throughout the pandemic.



*"Our folks have continued to work hard over the past year to ensure that students, faculty and staff are as safe as possible while on campus."*

**Jason Burr '01, associate vice president of facilities and capital projects**





## Campus Safety

When students were sent home and Wofford converted to remote learning last spring, campus safety officers remained on duty. With the return to in person classes in the fall, officers assisted by providing transportation to and from quarantine and isolation housing. They have helped to set up emergency quarantine quarters and have provided communication to the Wellness Center and other offices involved in facilitating the college's COVID-19 response.



*"Campus safety is proud to be able to support the college during this pandemic."*

**Randy Hall, campus safety director**



## Working Group for the Return to Campus

President Nayef Samhat formed a 16-member committee consisting of staff and faculty to develop a plan and guidelines for returning to campus for the 2020-21 academic year. The committee continues to meet to review campus needs and virus trends. Their work has impacted the entire campus community.

*"The pandemic will have a lasting effect on many institutions, so we take our task seriously. I'm proud of our group. A lot of time and energy has gone into protecting our community's health and safety while working to complete our mission."*



**Dan Deeter, director of business services and risk management and chair of the Working Group for the Return to Campus**



Campus safety, residence life and facilities worked together to prepare isolation and quarantine spaces, transport students and ensure that students have had the essentials during the pandemic.





Dwayne Harris '86, campus safety supervisor, and Darryl Maybin, a member of the utility crew, are two of the faces of student support.



## Residence Life

Wofford welcomed its largest class of first-year students to start the 2020-21 academic year and opened the new Jerome Johnson Richardson Hall, a 150-bed residence hall for first-year students. Staff in residence life also had to contend with housing students who had planned to study abroad and finding adequate isolation and quarantine spaces.

*"Residence halls are busy places every year and often play a central role in campus life and social activities. Things have been different this year with additional guidelines, and normal gathering places have been off limits to promote distancing guidelines. This definitely has not been a normal year. I am so thankful to everyone, especially student leaders, who have helped support their peers throughout a year that disrupted routines and traditions."*

**Brian Lemere, associate dean of students and director of residence life**







## EXPLORING THE VALUE OF THE PRE-MED MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAM

by Jo Ann Mitchell Brasington '89

Grant Blaylock '21 has been interviewed three different times by three different physicians to help him prepare for the medical school interviews that he has lined up this spring. He hasn't had to pay for the service because Wofford's medical school mock interview program is offered free of charge by alumni, parents and friends of the college.

"Mock interviews are so important because the interview is a really big component of a medical school application," says Dr. Natalie Spivey, associate professor of biology and coordinator of health careers advising. "The practice gives our students confidence so they can do well and get that acceptance letter."

Blaylock, a biology major from Pawley's Island, S.C., just completed a real interview with the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and he says the practice paid off.

"My interview went really well. It was a lot of fun, actually," says Blaylock. "The interviewers didn't ask nearly as many tough questions as Dr. (Bill) James."

As a junior, Blaylock did an interview with Dr. George Tyson '72, who launched the program almost a decade ago and continues to recruit volunteers, organize interviews and mentor pre-med students. That first interview was on campus, with students and physicians participating in rounds of interviews face to face, with other opportunities for networking and socialization built into the day. In the fall, Blaylock completed a Zoom interview with Dr. Rayvelle Stallings, who learned of the program through her son, Marcus Stallings '21, who is a participant as well. Finally, Blaylock interviewed with James in January at his office in Spartanburg.

"I'm not here to give you catchphrases or put words in your mouth," says James as he and Blaylock sat down



together preparing for the interview. James played the roles of different physician interviewers, starting with easy questions and moving to more difficult topics. “At this point, raising a GPA is tough. Improving an MCAT score is doable but tough, but anyone can improve their public speaking, interaction and interview skills. The more uncomfortable you are now, the more comfortable you’ll be during your interview.”

Tyson can still remember the discomfort and stress he felt during his first medical school interview at Cornell University. “I broke out into a cold sweat,” he says. “Our primary goal is to reduce the anxiety, to make the first real interview feel like the second. The secondary goal is to bring our students up to speed regarding successful interviewing techniques.”

The pre-med mock interview program took root after a conversation Tyson had with several student-athletes on the college’s football team who were planning to apply for medical or dental school. Tyson, who had served on admission interview panels for his other alma mater, Duke University, realized that Wofford alumni could enhance the already excellent work of Wofford faculty in the sciences and offer additional support for Wofford students. According to Tyson, about 20 professionals — doctors, dentists, veterinarians and pharmacists — participate in the program; some are regulars, some conduct interviews every few years as their schedules allow or if Wofford students are interested in their specialty.

“The feedback from students has been very good,” says Tyson. “A few years ago, the dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine commented on how well prepared Wofford students were.”

Blaylock says he chose Wofford because of its reputation for medical school preparation. He has shadowed physicians, worked as a nursing assistant at a hospital in Murrells Inlet, S.C., participated in the college’s clinical internship program, taken challenging classes and now has participated in the mock interview program. He also studied abroad through an international public health course that took him to Washington, D.C., South Africa and Brazil. Blaylock did research on infectious disease there and lived with host families.

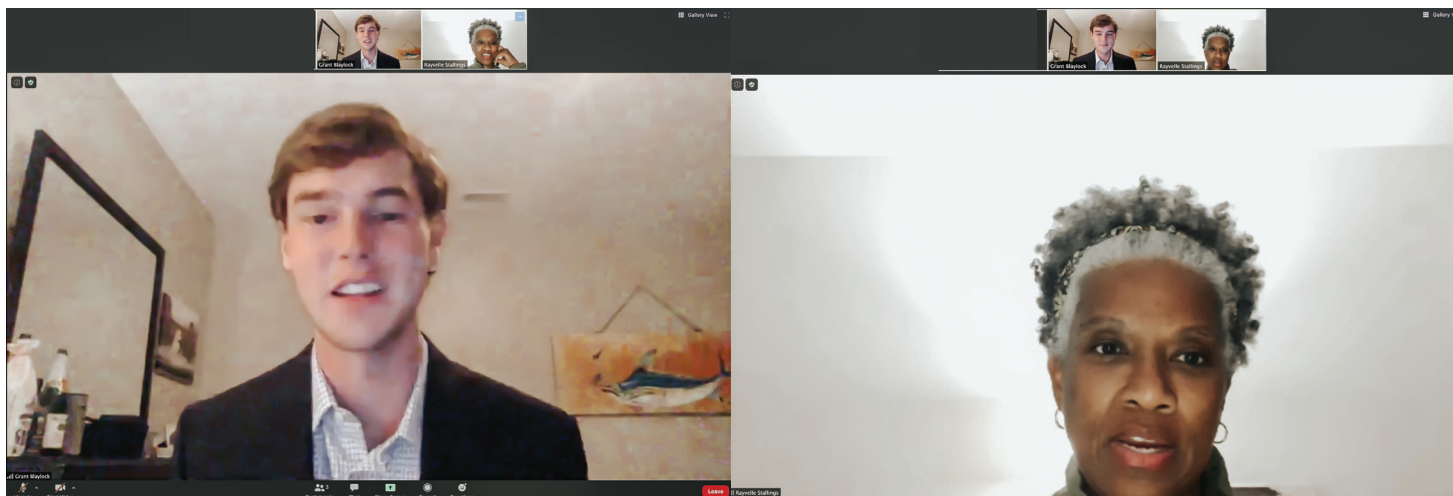
“The diversity of educational opportunities that I’ve had at Wofford made a difference in my interview,” says Blaylock, who also is a member of the student-managed James-Atkins Investment Fund. “Wofford’s liberal arts emphasis has allowed me to learn other disciplines. I feel prepared for medical school and a career as a physician because of the support I received across the institution.”



**Dr. Rayvelle Stallings, senior vice president of PruittHealth Services and corporate medical officer, joined the pre-med mock interview program this year. She was one of Blaylock’s interviewers. Her son, Marcus Stallings ’21, is participating in the program as well.**



**Dr. Bill James, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Spartanburg and former chief of the medical staff at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, has interviewed students since the program began.**





# CLASS NOTES

## 1976

**Clay Allen** retired as the 7th Judicial Circuit Public Defender on July 2, 2020, after serving in that position for 12 years. Before that, he was the Spartanburg County chief public defender for two years. He is currently living with his wife, Elisabeth, in Greenville and in Pumpkintown, S.C.

## 1978

**Tom Bolt** has been appointed chair of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress. He also serves on The Salvation Army National Advisory Board, and he continues to practice law on St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

## 1984

**Kevin Mundy** was sworn in as a member of the Winston-Salem, N.C., City Council on Dec. 7, 2020. Mundy, who has lived in Winston-Salem since 1987, represents the city's Southwest Ward.

## 1986

**Jerry Lanford** and his wife, Jodi, retired from the Florida school system after 30 years and moved to Sylva, N.C. He is currently teaching at Blue Ridge Early College in Cashiers.

## 1987

**Dr. Tracy Harrell Dunn** has been named dean of the Benedict College Tyrone Adam Burroughs School of Business and Entrepreneurship in Columbia, S.C. She is the fourth dean to head the college's business school and the first woman to hold the position. She has been the interim dean for the past three years. Dunn holds a Ph.D. and MBA from the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. She joined the faculty at Benedict College in 2002.

## 1988

**Laura Thomson McCarty** was featured in the Executive Function column of Humanities magazine, a publication of the National Endowment for the Humanities, fall 2020 issue. She is the president of Georgia Humanities.

## 1990

**Wen Crenshaw** graduated from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Leadership Academy. He serves as a division director for Murdoch Developmental Center, a 500-bed, state-operated health care facility serving persons with behavioral challenges, developmental and intellectual disabilities, and autism.

**Michael Dennis** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Addiction Professionals of South Carolina. Dennis is the executive director of the Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, serving Bamberg, Calhoun and Orangeburg counties.

## 1991

**Dr. Paige West** is among the honorees in the Explorers Club's inaugural EC 50 program, which recognizes 50 explorers who are changing the world. She's one of the 21 women named to the list. More than 400 explorers were nominated from more than 50 countries. West holds the Claire Tow Professorship in Anthropology at Barnard College and Columbia University, where she serves as the director of Columbia's Center

## CENTURY CITY

FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE TERRIER CLUB TURNS 100

by Robert W. Dalton



**Harry Williams '42 renewed his driver's license the week of his birthday in late November.**

**His 100th birthday.**

And it's not a symbolic license. Williams still hops behind the wheel of his 2005 Cadillac, the one with 105,000 miles on it, the one he's owned longer than any other vehicle he's ever had.

And why shouldn't he? A guy who went skydiving on his 93rd birthday (and 94th ... and 95th) isn't going to be intimidated by a little traffic.

"I just got it renewed for eight more years. I don't want to waste it," says Williams, who celebrated hitting the century mark on Nov. 21.

◀ **Williams, 100, in his Spartanburg office.**

for the Study of Social Difference. She has worked in Papua New Guinea since 1996 and studies the biodiversity and traditions of indigenous peoples while supporting the conservation of their cultures, languages and environments. She's the author and editor of several books and the co-founder of two non-profits that are conservation focused.

## 1993

**Chad Stamper** has been named co-leader and broker-in-charge for Allen Tate Companies Vest Mill Road and Hanes Mall Boulevard offices in Winston-Salem, N.C. He has worked as a Realtor since 2005, and as a sales agent, property manager and broker-in-charge.

## 1994

**Dr. Chuck Carter** was recently appointed by Prisma Health as the regional graduate medical education executive and designated institutional official for the Midlands Region residency and fellowship programs. Carter also is assuming the role of associate dean for graduate medical education for the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Columbia.

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The online service allows you to:

- + Update your personal profile.
- + Adjust your privacy settings to control what, if any, of your profile will be available for other alumni to see.
- + Search for classmates by industry, location and more.
- + Sign up for myMentor to connect with current students.
- + View your giving history.
- + View and pay your pledge.
- + Manage your communications preferences.

For more information, contact the Wofford College Alumni Association at [alumni@wofford.edu](mailto:alumni@wofford.edu).

Wasting things — time, opportunities — isn't in Williams' makeup. He served his country in the military, built a successful business and dedicated himself to supporting Wofford and his community. First and foremost to Williams, however, is his devotion to his family.

"I've always said that Harry Williams is the guy I want to be when I grow up," says Director of Athletics Richard Johnson. "Harry has been the most loyal of supporters and is just a delightful human being. You automatically smile when you see him. He is one of the most gracious people I have known. I wish we could clone him."

Williams grew up in the shadow of Wofford and spent a lot of time on campus as a child. When he was 12, he would keep score on a chalkboard

for the men's basketball team when it played in Andrews Field House.

"I got in free for doing it," he says. While at Wofford, Williams played on the football, basketball and tennis teams. He "brags" about his perfect record as the No. 6 singles player on the tennis team.

"I never won a match," he says with a laugh.

William's athletic achievements also include four holes-in-one, the last coming when he was 86.

In 1946, Williams was one of the founding members of the Eleven Club, an organization that encouraged Wofford alumni and friends to donate \$11 to support the athletics program. As its membership and mission grew, the Eleven Club became the Terrier Club.

"Harry has been an instrumental Terrier Club member, volunteer and leader for the past 75 years," says Luke Feisal '14, associate athletics director for development. "Whether it be getting the original Eleven Club up and running, or the many phone-a-thon call nights to drum up new memberships, his loyalty and passion for the mission of the Terrier Club are unwavering. It is truly remarkable that Harry has made some type of contribution, whether it be small or large, to consistently support Wofford athletics each and every year since 1946."

Williams has been just as consistent with his attendance at Wofford athletics events. Before the pandemic, he couldn't remember the last time he missed a home game.

"If they're going to play, I'm going to be there," he says.



# CLASS NOTES

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## 1995

**Derek Brown** has been named associate dean for development at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. He will lead medical school and hospital fundraising.

## 1999

**Dr. Anthony Leigh** was a featured presenter at the 2020 Institute for Chief Academic Officers and Academic Team Members, sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges. His presentation was during a panel on integrating general education and career preparation.

## 2002

**Bailey King**, a litigation partner at Bradley in Charlotte, N.C., was named to the Top 25 Charlotte and Top 100 North Carolina Super Lawyers list. He has more than 15 years of experience representing businesses and individuals in commercial litigation.

## 2007

**Erin Coy Levy** and her husband, Ethan, welcomed their daughter, Eliza Clare, on Aug. 20, 2020. They have two other children, Caroline and Grayson.

## 2009

**John Robert Barth** recently became a franchise owner of The Flying Biscuit Café in Columbia, S.C.

**Brent Owen** has been elevated to partner with the international law firm Squire Patton Boggs. Owen lives in Denver, and is licensed in Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico. He has been with the firm since 2015.

**Amelia Wilson Simmons** and her husband, Brandon, welcomed a son, Wilson Ray Simmons, on Nov. 19, 2020. They live in Atlanta.

## 2010

**Matt Abee** was elected to the partnership of the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Columbia, S.C., where he practices as a litigator in the areas of employment, insurance and business litigation.

**Dave and Allyson King Moffat** welcomed their daughter, Merrill “Taite” Moffat, on Dec. 18, 2020. Taite joins big brother Wells.

**Dr. Lauren Jamison Pinckney and Justin Pinckney ’08** welcomed their first child, James “Jay” Cotesworth Pinckney, on Nov. 28, 2020. The family lives in Greenville, S.C.

## 2011

**Dr. Jim Allen Shuman and Kaitlyn Bradshaw Shuman ’12** welcomed their daughter, Kennedy Grace Shuman, on Sept. 29, 2020. The couple has two other children, Brooklyn (3) and Banks (1). In August, Jim Allen joined Palmetto Family Medicine in Taylors, S.C. The family now resides in Greenville, S.C.

## SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

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SAMI BERNSTEIN LANDS SPOT ON FORBES'S 30 UNDER 30

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*by Robert W. Dalton*

**After graduating from Wofford in May 2017, Sami Bernstein loaded her possessions into her 10-year-old Lexus, hopped behind the wheel and drove from Spartanburg to Los Angeles.**

Then she started her real journey. It's a trip that, so far, has led her to help start a company and landed her on Forbes's 10th annual 30 Under 30 in the marketing and advertising category.

Bernstein is the chief marketing officer of Kickback, a shopping app that pays users who share brands and products. Kickback, which launched in September 2020, has a network of more than 2,500 social media influencers and collaborations with hundreds of companies, such as Sephora, Nike and Warby Parker.

“We brought on some big-name brands from fashion, beauty and wellness, and even big-box grocery stores,” says Bernstein.

Kickback is a subsidiary of Markett, which was Bernstein's first stop. She joined the company as a marketing associate and rose through the ranks to become an influencer marketing manager and then director of influencer marketing.

Kickback is an invitation-only platform. In addition to the well-known companies, Kickback features small brands and companies founded by women.

“With the agency-style business that we had, we could have hired hundreds of employees or we could build the technology that gives influencers everything they need,” Bernstein says. “Every consumer should be an influencer.”

Getting the company up and running did not come without its scary moments, like when they were developing the technology to house the platform.

“At that point your passion kicks in,” she says. “We put in the work, found out what simple changes to make and it helped us have a successful launch.”

Making the Forbes list was something Bernstein says she dreamed about. It's also something she didn't believe was possible, especially with a company that's still in its infancy.

“Sometimes it's hard to see the forest when you're in the trees, when you're doing something new rather than going to an established business,” she says.

Bernstein says the Forbes honor validates her decision to move across the country and start a company.

“It means what I'm doing is worthwhile, that the risk I took definitely has its rewards,” Bernstein says. “It means every time I think I should be doing what everyone else is doing, this recognition affirms that I should be

In addition to her current role as commercial lines manager at Kinghorn Insurance Agency of Beaufort, S.C., and TW Insurance Agency in Summerville, S.C., **Charlotte Perrow Law** has recently become a partner at the new TW Insurance Agency in Greenville, S.C., where she will continue to lead the commercial lines team across the organization from Beaufort.

## 2012

**Bates Adair** and Emily Adair welcomed Weber Bates Adair to their family on Jan. 1, 2021. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Kaitlin and **Joe Bailey** welcomed their son, Davis Cole Bailey, on July 1, 2020. The family lives in Baltimore, Md.

**Jesse Dixon** received a master of science degree in computer science with a specialization in interactive intelligence from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He's a web programmer at Florence-Darlington Technical College.

**Haley Sims Hines** married Brandon Hines on June 14, 2020, in Charleston, S.C. They

reside in Lyman, S.C. She is a senior financial analyst at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System.

**Brandon Robinson** was recently promoted to tax partner by Bradshaw, Gordon & Clinkscales in Greenville, S.C.

## 2013

**Laura Douglass Marion** married Richard Bowen Tibbetts Jr. on Oct. 10, 2020, at Sankaty Head Lighthouse in Nantucket, Mass.

**Sara Shealy** married Thomas Victa on Dec. 19, 2020, in Columbia, S.C. She is a development officer in the business school of Stevens Institute of Technology in Columbia.

## 2016

**Ashley Ann Cantey** has been hired by The Beach Company as an experience navigator at The Jasper in Charleston, S.C. Before joining The Jasper, she was an assistant community manager with Greystar, also in Charleston.

**Mariah Fuller** and **C.J. Neumann** were married on Sept. 5, 2020, in Mendota Heights, Minn.

**Justin Gordon** was named MVP of the British Basketball League Cup Final. He scored 17 points and grabbed a BBL Cup Final record 15 rebounds to lead the Newcastle Eagles to their fifth cup title in the last decade and seventh overall. Gordon was a member of Wofford's back-to-back Southern Conference Championship teams in 2014 and 2015.

## 2017

**Kendall Eoute** was admitted to the S.C. Bar Association in October 2020. She is an attorney with Cate & Brough in Spartanburg, S.C.

going down my own path, creating my own way."

Bernstein says Wofford, where she majored in psychology and minored in philosophy, taught her how to connect with people. She says that's not an opportunity she would have had at a large university.

"It's a smaller community, and I got to know my professors and peers on a personal level," she says. "That allowed me to learn how people work, what motivates them and ultimately how to connect with anyone and everyone. At the end of the day, Wofford taught me how to be a good person. It's a tight-knit community of people who want to get to know you on a deep level. I quickly realized the importance of valuing people's differences and allowing those differences to lead to meaningful connections. That's the key to being successful."

Forbes  
30  
UNDER 30







## REFLECTIONS ON A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

### CONSIDERING ATHLETICS DURING THE PANDEMIC

*by Brent Williamson, associate athletics director for sports information*

It has been just over a year since the first athletics events at Wofford were canceled on March 12, 2020, because of the pandemic. The past year has been full of challenges for student-athletes, teams, coaches and staff. Here's how it started.

On Monday, March 9, 2020, the Wofford men's basketball team made their sixth appearance in the Southern Conference Championship game. Playing for the fourth straight day, the team was unable to defeat East Tennessee State. Men's golf competed on Monday and Tuesday at the Palmetto Intercollegiate.

The baseball team played at Auburn on Wednesday, March 11. As the innings passed, games across the nation began to be canceled in the NBA and college basketball tournaments. Colin Davis '21, a finance major from Roswell, Ga., robbed his brother, who plays for Auburn, of a home run in the fifth inning, and in the eighth inning the Terriers led 4-3. With the tying run on base in the bottom of the ninth, a strikeout gave Wofford a win over the 14th-ranked team in the nation.

On Thursday, the dominoes began to fall. A women's tennis match was postponed because of weather. The weekend's baseball opponent, Massachusetts, was unable to travel. Hannah Steelman '21, who transferred to North Carolina State to train for the Olympics, was in Albuquerque, N.M., for the NCAA Indoor Track National Championship. At 4:17 p.m., the NCAA sent an email that changed everything: the remainder of winter and spring championships were canceled.

The Southern Conference suspended all athletics competition that day as well through March 30. On Sunday, March 15, Wofford sent students home early for spring break, with the expectation of coming back after the two-week hiatus. However, it wasn't meant to be.

On March 17, the Southern Conference canceled all athletics-related activities for the remainder of the academic year. On March 25, Wofford made the decision to conduct the remainder of the semester remotely.

The weeks continued with many on campus working from home. The emptiness of Wofford's usually busy campus was hard to fathom.

On Sunday, May 17 — graduation day — a few students returned to make their own walk across the seal in front of Old Main. The rows and rows of white folding chairs that usually accompany Commencement were missing, along with the smiling faces of students and families. The bell tolled as usual, but very few were on campus to hear it.

During June and July, there were no summer sports camps and summer school was remote. Even the NFL's Carolina Panthers were absent for the first time in 25 years. In August, the football team reported to campus in the hopes of the fall season beginning on time. Those hopes were dashed a few weeks later as the Southern Conference paused fall sports, with the intention of playing in the spring.

Things went virtual in the fall, from Story Time with the Terriers to a series of podcasts for alumni to the Terrier Ball. At the same time, teams began to practice and prepare, but with a new set of safety protocols mandated by the NCAA.

The leadership of the athletics training staff and wellness center staff, along with athletics and campus administration, met almost constantly. Making sense of the return-to-play regulations from the NCAA and every athletics conference was a challenge. We all quickly learned the difference between a PCR test and an antigen test. Some teams had to test weekly, others were every other week and some required three tests

a week. Keeping up with the rules and managing logistics was daunting, yet handled expertly by the athletics trainers with the assistance from partners at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

On Oct. 19, 2020, the men's golf team was the first to return to intercollegiate action. They were followed by women's golf and cross country, with the Southern Conference holding the championship meet on Nov. 21. The men's and women's tennis teams also each competed in one event during the fall.

The men's and women's basketball teams had their home openers on Nov. 25, 2020, with both teams winning that first game. It was odd to play in an empty Jerry Richardson Indoor Stadium but rewarding for the few who could watch the Terriers back in action. During the early part of basketball season, just taking the court was a victory. Several games were canceled because of last-minute COVID-19 positive tests results in opposing players.

More teams have been back in action since January, and in February, there was a brief period of time during which all 19 of Wofford's NCAA Division I teams were completing. On Feb. 20, Wofford beat Mercer in football (31-14) after a 488-day break, the longest stretch since World War II, when the Terriers went 1,095 days between football games. The day also marked the Terriers' 100th win in Gibbs Stadium.

As we look back on the year that presented challenges like no other, Wofford has continued to tackle each and every one with the tenacity of Terriers. There were a few failures along the way, but many more successes. We look forward to getting back to normal, whatever that may look like on the city's northern border.

# CLASS NOTES

## 2018

**Conner Michelle Wood** and Charlie Kanel were married Oct. 10, 2020.

## 2020

**Joshua Adams** married his high-school sweetheart, Alexa Bagwell, on May 31, 2020. Their planned large church wedding was instead an intimate family wedding at an outdoor chapel in their hometown. Joshua has accepted a position as YouTube strategist for Elevation Church in Charlotte, N.C.

**Jennings Brackett** and **Jordon Accetta '17** were married in Monroe, N.C., on May 30, 2020. Jennings works as a social media associate for a boutique branding and marketing firm in Belmont, N.C., and Jordon is a financial advisor based in their hometown of Rock Hill, S.C.

## FACULTY AND STAFF

**Dr. Grace Schwartz**, assistant professor of chemistry, had the article "Demethylation or Sorption? Fate of Methylmercury in the Presence of Manganese Dioxide" accepted

for publication by the journal *Environmental Engineering Science*.

**Masha Vlasova**, assistant professor of studio art, in collaboration with Moira O'Shea of the University of Chicago, had the article "Fluid Objects: On the Impermanence of Monuments" accepted for publication by the *ASAP/Journal*, Johns Hopkins University Press. She also had the paper "Psycho-geographical Choreography: Hand-held Filmmaking and Pedagogy" accepted for the edited volume *Constructions of the Real: Intersections of Practice and Theory in Documentary-Based Filmmaking* by Intellect Books.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### EARLY WOMEN STUDENT LEADERS

*by Dr. Phillip Stone '94, archivist*

**Brasington, Hurley, Molony also elected**

## Childs wins Campus Union Presidency in run-off



Kevin Childs



Carol Brasington



Roberta Hurley



Kem Molony

Fifty years ago this spring, Wofford began admitting women students on a regular basis, and four women became the first day students in the modern era. Within five years, the college moved to full residential coeducation.

Though women made up a small percentage of the student body at first, their numbers grew through the 1970s. This group of Wofford women did not wait for opportunities to lead, and they quickly won elections to

Campus Union. Even before the move to full residential coeducation, Joanne Deakin Carpenter '77 became the first woman to win a Campus Union office. She was elected student body secretary in 1976. Women frequently won one or two of each class's seats in the Campus Union Assembly and also won seats on the Judicial Commission. By 1980, women held three of the four Campus Union offices. In that year, Carol Brasington Wilson '81 became vice president, Roberta Hurley '81

became secretary and Kem Molony '81 became treasurer. It took a few more years before Mary Ann McCrackin '85 would become the first woman president of Campus Union.

The story of women's leadership on campus is one part of an exhibit on the coeducation decade, which the college archives has put together. It is on display in the library's Martha Cloud Chapman Gallery during the spring semester.



# IN MEMORIAM

## 1939

**Col. Robert Earle Kirtley**, Feb. 7, 2021, Williamsburg, Va. Kirtley, who was the college's oldest known living alumnus at the time of his death, served in the U.S. Air Force for 30 years. He was one of six test pilots who developed the P-38 Lightning fighter and flew the planes with the 27th Pursuit Squadron early in World War II. He became commander of the 95th Fighter Squadron, which he led in combat in North Africa in 1942-43. He then trained fighters and flew missions in Europe, including providing high cover during the Normandy invasion. He left the service but returned and served in Korea from day one of the war to coordinate United Nations air defenses. He also flew P-51s in combat and received the Bronze Star. His career ultimately led him to teach at the Armed Forces Staff College and later to the Pentagon, Harvard University and England as the personal representative to the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. His final assignment was the Weapons Systems Evaluation Group in Washington, D.C. He worked for Serendipity Consulting after military retirement, eventually completely retiring to pursue his love of fishing, crabbing and golf. He was a lifelong learner who enjoyed mastering new skills, from rebuilding antique clocks and tying flies to home construction and cooking.

## 1941

**Milton Maness**, Feb. 9, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Maness was a B-29 bomber pilot during World War II, flying sorties over Japan from Guam. He later served in the Air Force Reserve, where he reached the rank of lieutenant colonel. He earned 14 varsity letters while at Wofford, three each in football and basketball and four each in baseball and track. He was a scout for the Boston Red Sox and had a hand in discovering Jim Rice, the 1978 American League MVP. He was a salesman for Crutchfield's Sporting Goods before opening his own store, Maness Sporting Goods. He helped found Spartan Alarm when he was 72. He was the public address announcer for the Spartanburg High School football team for 46 years, stepping out of the box in 2007.

## 1943

**Barney Monroe Hiers**, Dec. 17, 2020, Bamberg, S.C. Hiers practiced law in Bamberg for 59 years and was the Bamberg County Veterans Affairs officer for over 50 years. He was on the board of the Bamberg Home Federal Savings and Loan Association and

was the attorney for the City of Bamberg for 43 years. He was a World War II veteran in the European Theater, receiving the Bronze Star for his service. He was the past commander and adjutant of Bamberg County American Legion Post No. 39. He also was the past president of the Bamberg County Chamber of Commerce, Men's Garden Club and Lions Club. He was the past district governor of 32-B Lions Club and was selected South Carolina Lion of the Year in 1974. In 2001, he received a certificate of appreciation from the governor for his many years of service to his community.

## 1944

**The Rev. Eugene King Scoggins**, Nov. 15, 2020, Bishopville, S.C. Scoggins was a minister of the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church for 39 years. He served as pastor of churches in Nichols, North Myrtle Beach, Woodruff, Kingstree, Bishopville, Walterboro and Batesburg. He retired in 1985. During his time at Duke University, where he earned his master's degree in religion, he served as the school's Blue Devil mascot.

## 1947

**Harold Andrew McGuffin**, Nov. 17, 2020, Columbia, S.C. McGuffin served in the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1952 as part of the Germany Occupation Force. After leaving the Army, he spent his career with the Internal Revenue Service, retiring in 1983 as the Southeast regional commissioner. In 1981, he was a recipient of the Presidential Rank Awards distinguished service as a federal civil servant.

## 1948

**George Agnew Stone**, Jan. 24, 2021, Columbia, S.C. Stone was a member of the Terriers baseball team and was a U.S. Army veteran. He was a salesman for Swift and Co. Meat Packers for 40 years and later for L.R. Brown and Co.

## 1949

**Oren Raysor Judy Jr.**, Jan. 7, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. After attending Clemson University his freshman year, Judy joined the U.S. Navy and served in the South Pacific before entering Wofford. He played No. 1 singles for both the Clemson and Wofford tennis teams. After graduating, he taught at Spartanburg High for two years before embarking on a 63-year career in the

insurance business. He founded The Judy Agency Inc. on Feb. 1, 1966. He was past president of the Spartanburg Life Underwriters, the Spartanburg Chapter of C.L.U.'s, the Western Carolina Chapter of C.L.U.'s and the Spartanburg Estate Planning Council.

**Lamar L. Keisler**, Nov. 26, 2020, Aiken, S.C. Keisler served in the U.S. Navy as a dental technician. After leaving the military, he worked for DuPont at the Savannah River Plant for 41 years. He was an avid golfer, playing until he was 90.

**The Rev. Robert Morris Wofford**, Jan. 2, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Wofford, who received his master of divinity degree from Emory University, retired after 60 years of service. He served and was a member of Immanuel United Methodist Church in Wellford, S.C., for his last 16 years in the ministry.

## 1950

**Walter Arthur Brown**, Oct. 23, 2020, Easley, S.C. Brown was retired from Duke Energy after a 36-year career as a lab supervisor. He was a Marine Corps veteran who served his country during World War II.

**Royce Nelson Gillespie**, Feb. 1, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Gillespie was a U.S. Army veteran who served during the Korean War. He spent 36 years as a certified management accountant with Milliken and Co., first in Laurens and then in Spartanburg. He had a passion for woodworking and made many pieces of furniture that the family cherished.

## 1951

**Windell McCrackin**, Dec. 22, 2020, Myrtle Beach, S.C. McCrackin served two years in the U.S. Marine Corps before enrolling at Wofford, where he joined the Army ROTC. After graduating, he was commissioned and served two years in Korea in the 160th Infantry Regiment. After graduating from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1955, he went to work for the U.S. Attorney General's Honor Recruitment Program in the Criminal Division of the Justice Department in Washington. He returned to South Carolina the next year to clerk for Federal Judge Ashton Williams in Charleston. In 1957 he moved to Myrtle Beach to become a partner in the law firm of Urner, Farlow and McCrackin. He later became a founding member of the firm of McCrackin, Barnett and Richardson. He retired in 2017 after 62 years of practicing law.

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## REMEMBERING DON FOWLER '57

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Dr. Don Fowler '57, a longtime Democratic Party leader on the South Carolina and national stages, died Dec. 15 in Columbia, S.C.

Fowler chaired the state Democratic Party from 1971 to 1980 and helped two governors win elections. He oversaw the 1988 Democratic National Convention and spent two years as chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1995 to 1997. His time leading the DNC included President Bill Clinton becoming the first Democrat since Franklin D. Roosevelt to win reelection.

Fowler was a Wofford trustee from 1992 to 2003, and he was a longtime consultant to the college in the areas of marketing and communication strategy. He also served as the college's vice president for marketing and communications in the mid-2000s.

Fowler taught political science at the University of South Carolina for more than 50 years. He was teaching a course in American politics up until his death. He also occasionally taught at Wofford.

"He really had the common touch and loved Wofford College," says Doyle Boggs '70, the college's former associate vice president of marketing and communications.

Boggs was a teenager aspiring to be a sportswriter when he first met Fowler. He was considering another college when Fowler encouraged him to choose Wofford by telling him about opportunities for students in the college's sports information department.

Boggs would later take one of Fowler's classes at Wofford and enjoy a lifetime of friendship with him.



**Dr. Don Fowler '57 at an alumni event in Columbia, S.C.**

Boggs said Fowler would get up at 4 a.m. and make the drive from Columbia to teach an 8 a.m. class at the college. During class, Fowler, a gifted storyteller, talked about desegregating the political system and shared stories from his work.

"No one ever cut a Don Fowler class," says Boggs, who also learned to never turn down lunch with Fowler either. "There was always a story that was hilarious and fun," says Boggs, while remembering Fowler sharing his struggles with getting Clinton off the stage at the DNC after the future president exceeded his time.

Fowler was born in Spartanburg and was a student-athlete while attending Wofford. He was an All-American on the men's basketball team and his No. 13 is retired at the college.

"Don was one of our most loyal, generous and visible alumni," says President Nayef Samhat. "He's the ideal example of someone who brought honor upon his alma mater by going out into the world and doing well and doing good. He will

be missed, and our thoughts are with Don's widow, Carol, and his two children, Donnie, and our colleague in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology Dr. Cissy Fowler."

Upon learning of Fowler's death, Van Hipp '82, who chaired the S.C. Republican Party in the 1980s, tweeted that he was a teenager when he first met Fowler and they both served in the U.S. Army Reserve together.

"We were on opposite sides of the political aisle, but I always enjoyed talking politics, military issues and all things South Carolina with him," says Hipp in his tweet. "Don was a patriot who loved America."



# IN MEMORIAM

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## 1953

**Tony Izzi Jr.**, Nov. 2, 2020, Shelby, N.C. A Korean War veteran, Izzi attended Medical Field Service School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and was a dental specialist at Camp Gordon, Ga. He began a career in textiles in 1957 and was named executive vice president of DTI Yarns in 1984. He grew up working in the family's business, Tony's Ice Cream in Shelby, where ice cream was free for those in uniform and children who could not afford it.

## 1954

**Robert H. "Bobby" Griffith**, Nov. 25, 2020, Chesterfield, S.C. Griffith was a former supervisor with Chesterfield County Public Works and also a former assistant director with the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments. He was a former member of the Chesterfield Town Council. He was a U.S. Army veteran and retired as a lieutenant colonel with the South Carolina Army National Guard. He was a past commander of Chesterfield American Legion Post No. 74, serving for over 19 years.

## 1955

**William Madison Tucker**, March 10, 2020, Greensboro, N.C. Tucker came to Greensboro from Emory University in 1961, where he joined the faculty of the English department in the Women's College, which then became UNC Greensboro. He taught English literature and composition and co-taught a course on film as literature. He retired after decades in the classroom.

## 1957

**Fred F. DuBard Jr.**, Jan. 14, 2021, Florence, S.C. During his Wofford days, DuBard served in ROTC, joined Kappa Sigma fraternity, became a Terrier cheerleader, chaired the Dance Association, sang in the Glee Club and played the washtub bass in a student-formed music and comedy group called "The Tennessee Dewdrops." After graduation he served as a military recruitment officer for the U.S. Army and earned a master's degree in counseling from the University of Tennessee. After leaving the military, he worked as a produce salesman in Charleston before joining Budweiser of Greenville. In 1972 he became general manager of N.B. Baroody Beverage Co., an Anheuser-Busch distributor in Florence. He purchased the company in 1989 and renamed it DuBard Inc. He sold the company in 2006. He served as president of the Florence Rotary Club and the Florence Family YMCA, as chair of the

Coastal Carolina University board of trustees and for many years as a lay member of the S.C. Bar's Commission on Lawyer Conduct.

## 1959

**Marcus Carlisle Bethea Jr.**, Dec. 26, 2020, Dillon, S.C. Bethea was a comptroller for Mohawk Industries for many years. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

**Robert Wilson Osborne Sr.**, Dec. 24, 2020, Madison, Miss. Osborne served in the U.S. Army Reserve. He retired from Allstate Insurance after more than 30 years in operations.

## 1960

**Max Gordon Poteat**, Jan. 16, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. Poteat was the former director of the Appalachia 3 Health Department, serving Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union counties. He also served on the Spartanburg School District 7 board of trustees.

## 1961

**William Jerial "Judd" Lawing**, Jan. 19, 2021, Hickory, N.C. A U.S. Air Force veteran, Lawing was one of the first servicemen selected to work with IBM computers on multiple bases. He began practicing accounting in the early 1960s and later opened his first accounting firm, Lawing, Rowe and Co. After retiring and a very brief stint in consulting, he established a new firm, Lawing, Matthews and Co., and continued to work until last fall.

## 1962

**Joe Thomas Bradham Jr.**, Nov. 24, 2020, Cheraw, S.C. Bradham was the first member of his family to graduate from college, taking a job in the Wofford cafeteria to help cover the cost of his tuition. He began his career as a teacher and coach in Orangeburg's District Five, and after earning his master's degree and principal certification at Appalachian State University, he quickly rose through the district's administrative ranks. He served as principal of Mellichamp Elementary School, Thackston Junior High School and Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School, where he was instrumental in guiding and supporting the integration of Orangeburg County's school system. Bradham was appointed assistant superintendent of secondary education in 1979 and served as associate superintendent for administration until 1986. In 1986, he was

appointed superintendent of Chesterfield County Schools, where he restructured the county's public school system, overseeing a comprehensive building and renovation plan. After retiring from Chesterfield County Schools in 1996, he joined Moseley Architects as a consultant to help guide the firm in the construction and design of new school facilities across the Southeast.

**Fredrick Howard Smith**, Jan. 30, 2021, Winston-Salem, N.C. Smith spent four years in ROTC, and then served two years in the U.S. Army in Stuttgart, Germany. When he returned to the U.S., he worked in accounting for Liberty Life Insurance Co. in Greenville, S.C. He worked for Rexam Packaging Co. in Georgia, North Carolina and New Jersey until 1978, when he moved his family to Winston-Salem. There he worked for Archer Packaging Co., a part of Reynolds International. He enjoyed music, especially jazz, and attended the Newport Jazz Festival twice and Merlefest for 12 years.

## 1964

**Robert Harrison Buchanan Jr.**, Jan. 31, 2021, Columbia, S.C. Buchanan worked in state government for more than 30 years with the South Carolina Commission for the Blind, as administrator of the C.M. Tucker Center and as director of the crippled children's program with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. He held a master's degree from the University of South Carolina and was a licensed nursing home administrator.

## 1965

**Ernest Ray "Ernie" Allen**, Oct. 27, 2020, Aiken, S.C. Allen worked for the Campbell's Soup Co. for 33 years, holding executive positions in Sumter, S.C.; Paris, Texas; and Aiken. He was manager of the company's Pepperidge Farm plant in Aiken for 20 years and received the president's award for his leadership in 1998. He served in the South Carolina National Guard from 1965 to 1972. After retiring from Campbell's Soup, Allen was the business manager for Millbrook Baptist Church from 2000 to 2008. He served on a variety of boards, including as chairman of the Aiken Manufacturing Council for 20 years. He also was chairman of the Aiken County Commission for Higher Education and served on the Aiken County Commission for Technical and Comprehensive Education. Allen received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the University of South



## REMEMBERING DR. JAMES R. GROSS

Professor James R. Gross died on Jan. 28 at the Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home in Spartanburg.

"His great creativity and the courage to press the envelope of the conventional kept the pot stirred at a party, a committee meeting, the theatre program he birthed or in a friendly conversation. ... a true Wofford icon," says President Emeritus Joe Lesesne, who was friends with Gross for nearly 60 years. President Emeritus Bernie Dunlap adds, "It's hard to imagine the world — and most certainly the world of Wofford — without him."

Gross served in the U.S. Army after earning a B.B.A. from Wake Forest College. He held an M.A. from the University of North Carolina and a Ph.D. from Duke University. He joined the Wofford College English faculty in 1966 and worked with students to found the Wofford Theatre Workshop during Interim 1970, directing a production of Harold Pinter's "The Birthday Party." Originally staged on a shoestring budget in the Montgomery Room of the Burwell Building, Wofford Theatre productions found a new home in 1981 as Gross inaugurated the Tony White Theater in the Campus Life Building with a production of "Twelfth Night." He also chaired the Wofford Fine Arts Department.

Upon Gross's retirement in 2003 as Garrison Professor of English

and Theatre, the college named 37 cascading steps along the Liberty Trail in his honor to mark his years of service to the college.

"J.R. Gross touched the lives of generations of students, faculty, staff and alumni; they are his legacy, along with a thriving theatre program in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts," says President Nayef Samhat.

Two of those closest to Gross, starting during their years as students and continuing throughout the remainder of Gross's life, were Hunter Quick '71 and Dr. Mark Ferguson '94.

"Dr. Gross was a passionate supporter of civil rights and social justice causes. He was a gadfly among his colleagues and pushed the envelope to realize a better, intellectually honest college. He was creative, courageous, loving and a true teacher in the classical sense. He provided inspiration and clarity when there was confusion and chaos. He was fiercely loyal and dedicated to his friends. He will be terribly missed in a world in need of kind men of service and ideals and icons of his stature," says Quick.

"To many, including me, the example of his life as an artist, a teacher and a mentor were an inspiration — a goad to make the most of every moment we have with each other and an exhortation to work hard in the service

of ideals you believe in. ... He was a complicated, interesting, very fun and much beloved man," says Ferguson.

Other graduates from those years have shared their memories on social media — stories of his laugh, friendship, demand for excellence, passion for life and commitment to his craft, whether that be as a teacher, actor, director or mentor.

Beyond Wofford, Gross was an active and enthusiastic supporter of the arts, with service on the boards of the Spartanburg County Arts Commission, the Spartanburg Little Theatre and the Spartanburg Ballet Guild. After retirement, he purchased a vacation home in Belle Isle, S.C., to seek a quiet, contemplative life on the coast. He was also an avid traveler, visiting more than 100 countries and numerous states before becoming physically unable to continue his travels.

Gross was predeceased by his daughter Camille and his wife, Kay. He is survived by his daughter Austin Gross of Spartanburg.

**Gross (left) with Dr. Mark Byrnes, professor and chair of the Department of History, in the 2008 production of "Much Ado About Nothing," directed by Dr. Mark Ferguson '94, professor and director of the Wofford Theatre.**



# IN MEMORIAM

Carolina for his lifetime of work and leadership in higher education.

**William Edward Dolson**, Oct. 29, 2020, Marietta, Ga. A member of the Terriers football team, Dolson's first job after graduation was as a teacher and head football coach at the Blue Ridge School for boys in Hendersonville, N.C. After three years in that role, he relocated to Marietta and enjoyed a successful 36-year career with Lockheed Martin, where he worked on a variety of projects, including the C-130 Hercules. He was a voracious reader, and he enjoyed annual trips to Kiawah Island, S.C., with his family.

**Charles Hearon McCravy**, Nov. 15, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. After a brief internship at Milliken & Co., McCravy moved into banking. He excelled in commercial lending at the Citizens & Southern Bank in Spartanburg and in Greenville before leaving the industry in 1991. He was an original partner of the Capital Corp., and later joined Arthur State Bank before his retirement in 2018. An avid largemouth bass fisherman, he could often be found on his favorite local lakes of Blalock, Jocassee, Murray and Greenwood.

## 1966

**Roger H. Henry Jr.** Nov. 29, 2020, Hartsville, S.C. "Buzz," as he was known, received the Outstanding Young Alumnus of the Year award from the Wofford National Alumni Association in 1977. He earned an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He spent his business career following various entrepreneurial pursuits, including as president of Caper House Inc., a chain of 100 convenience stores based in Greenville, S.C. He also served as president of the S.C. Association of Convenience Food Stores, president of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce's Advisory Committee for New Business and as a board member of the Wofford National Alumni Association.

**Harry T. "Hap" Witmer**, Nov. 29, 2020, Columbia, S.C. Witmer was a U.S. Army veteran. After graduating he was a first lieutenant stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., and later became a flight engineer in Hialeah, Fla. He had a long career in chemical water treatment. Sailing and boating were his favorite pastimes, and he continued to enjoy them throughout his life.

## 1967

**Johnny Babb**, Jan. 18, 2021, Inman, S.C. Babb was co-owner of Service Paint Center Inc. in Boiling Springs, S.C. He volunteered with his wife, Jane, delivering for Mobile Meals.

**Gary Robert Daves**, Feb. 6, 2021, Columbia, S.C. Daves was a graduate of the University of South Carolina School of Law and was a former partner at Nelson Mullins Broad and Cassel. He also was a captain in the U.S. Army.

## 1969

**Henry Smith Spann**, Dec. 4, 2020, Anderson, S.C. Spann served as a U.S. Army Infantry lieutenant and instructor in the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga. After returning to civilian life, he became an English teacher at Belton-Honea Path High School and earned two master's degrees from Clemson University. He scored AP English literature and composition exams for nine years and was a table leader afterward for 11 years. The final 10 years of his 38-year career were spent teaching English at Anderson University. He remained active in education after retiring, teaching lifelong learning classes.

## 1970

**Harry Raymond Hucks Jr.**, Oct. 5, 2020, Santee, S.C. Before enrolling in Wofford, Hucks served in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1966, reaching the rank of specialist class four and being appointed assistant to the base chaplain. He also earned a Good Conduct Medal for sharpshooting. He was retired from the American Red Cross and the South Carolina Department of Social Services.

**Dr. Blucher Lee Linder**, Nov. 25, 2020, Gaffney, S.C. Linder graduated from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest University in 1974. After medical school, he set up his family practice in Gaffney with Dr. Charles Stroup. He worked at the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation from 1995 until his retirement in 2000.

**John Kypros Polydorou**, Oct. 25, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. As a teenager, Polydorou joined the underground war against the British occupation of Cyprus, the island on which he was born. The island became independent in 1960. After a career in textiles in Spartanburg, in 1982 he joined New York Life Insurance Co. as a financial consultant. He earned several honors from New York Life and the industry as a whole and was a member of the Million Dollar Round Table for 27 consecutive years. He retired from New York Life in 2011. He was a member of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and served several times as president of the board of directors. He founded the Greek Nite Celebration as a fundraiser for the church and managed the event for 25 years.

## 1972

**Daniel Oliver Sutton Sr.**, Nov. 1, 2020, Rock Hill, S.C. Sutton served in the U.S. Army before beginning a nine-year career in banking. After leaving banking, he worked at B&B Distributors for 32 years as a general manager and vice president. He was owner/operator of Brands Party Shop in Rock Hill for many years, and served on the Rock Hill Housing Authority board for over 30 years. He was a former resident and later board member for the Boys Home of the South.

## 1973

**Col. Richard Craven Webb**, Dec. 27, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Webb served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve from 1969 until his retirement in 2002. He held a master's degree and education specialist degree from the University of South Carolina. He joined the Wofford faculty as assistant professor of military science in 1990 and stayed with the college until 1997. Before that, he taught and coached at Dorman High School for 13 years.

## 1974

**John Pickens Gardner Jr.**, Nov. 22, 2020, Darlington, S.C. In 1976, he was, at the time, the youngest member of the S.C. House of Representatives and was half of one of only four father-son pairs to serve as representatives. After successfully instating the state Court of Appeals, he joined his father as the third generation Gardner to lead the Gardner Law Firm. He continued to serve the state as a commissioner for the Department of Highways and Public Transportation and as chairman of the Highway Patrol Committee. He was the author of four books: "Chicken Soup for the Entrepreneurial Soul," "Living at the Summit," "If You Are Me, Then Who Am I?" and "Bound in the Bible."

**Robert O. Purdy IV**, Jan. 29, 2021, Springfield, Mass. Purdy worked in banking before spending the majority of his career at a variety of positions in the paper industry. He retired in 2013. A native of Sumter, S.C., he was active in scouting and became an Eagle Scout.

## 1978

**Henry Lee Washington**, Nov. 8, 2020, Clarksville, Tenn. Washington served 14 years in the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of major and completing his service in the forces command headquarters division artillery, 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell, Ky. He was an employee of the state of Tennessee for 27 years, where he last worked as the district investigations director.

## 1981

**Ted Holt Walter**, Jan. 20, 2021, Lake City, S.C. Walter was a Realtor and certified residential appraiser with Kirby Realty and Co. He was past president of the Lake City Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow. He also served on the Florence County Board of Appeals.

## 1989

**Donald Stephen “Steve” Kahler III**, Nov. 28, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Kahler was a division manager and an officer at Waffle House. He was a member of the football team while at Wofford.

## 1990

**John Ray “Tripp” Lee III**, Feb. 1, 2021, Tampa, Fla. A U.S. Army veteran, Lee was vice president of sales at Frasier Tire Service. He was editor of the Old Gold and Black Wofford student newspaper, during his senior year.

## 1999

**The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Robert Meadows**, Dec. 9, 2020, Spartanburg, S.C. Meadows and his brother, NBC “Today” Show host and current trustee **Craig Melvin ’01**, were dedicated to raising awareness of colon cancer after Meadows was diagnosed with the disease in 2016. After graduating from Wofford, Meadows earned his master of divinity and doctorate in ministry from Gardner-Webb University. Meadows was the former president of the Tyger River Youth Association and former pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church in Woodruff, S.C.

## FRIENDS

**The Rev. DeArmond E. Canaday**, Dec. 4, 2020, Greenwood, S.C. Canaday was a Wofford trustee from 1986 to 1999. He graduated from The Citadel before serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a minister with the South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church for 36 years.

**Elizabeth “Anne” Thomas Greene**, Feb. 11, 2021, Spartanburg, S.C. A native of Knoxville, Tenn., Greene graduated from Converse College. She worked for many years as the director of the Art School of the Spartanburg Art Association. She was the widow of Edward E. Greene, a former Wofford CFO.

**Dr. Milton Kimpson**, Jan. 30, 2021, Columbia, S.C. Kimpson received an honorary doctor of humanities degree from Wofford in 1983 and was a trustee from 1990 to 2002. He was the father of **Milton Kimpson Jr. ’83**. He was a

graduate of Benedict College and a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean War. He was a state supervisor of elementary education at the South Carolina Department of Education and later was appointed the first executive director for the Community Relations Council of the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. In 1979, former Gov. Richard Riley appointed Kimpson as the executive director of Health, Education and Human Services. He later was appointed to the state Worker’s Compensation Commission, later serving as chairman. He also served as an associate commissioner to the state Commission on Higher Education and as the deputy commissioner for program services at the South Carolina Department of Corrections before retiring in 1994. He received numerous honors and awards, including the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor; Man of the Year Award from the Manning Branch of the NAACP; Distinguished Service Award from South Carolina State College; Public Servant of the Year Award from the South Carolina Association of Minorities for Public Administration; and the Friend of Education Award from the South Carolina Education Association. He was recognized in the 2008 African American History Calendar, and in 2013, Benedict College dedicated the Milton Kimpson Center for Graduate Studies and Continuing Education.

**H. Steve McManus**, Dec. 31, 2020, Daniel Island, S.C. A graduate of The Citadel, McManus served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1970 and reached the rank of captain. After leaving the military, he joined Spartan Food Systems as the manager of Hardee’s Restaurant in Alcoa, Tenn. After a successful career with Flagstar and Hardee’s Food Systems, he retired and, along with Sam Maw ’56, purchased The Beacon Drive In in Spartanburg.

**Elizabeth “Betsy” Boden McGehee**, Dec. 6, 2020, Covington, Ga. McGehee attended Northwestern University and graduated from Transylvania University in 1961 with concentrations in English and history. She met her future husband, former Wofford professor Larry McGehee, at Transylvania. Later in life, she worked part time in the mayor’s office in Knoxville, Tenn., and at the Music Foundation of Spartanburg. She volunteered in numerous capacities everywhere she lived, including as a Girl Scout troop leader and candy striper. McGehee had a three-day run on “Jeopardy!” in 1965, when she was pregnant with her first daughter. She was famous for her hospitality, quick wit and affection for Wofford students.

**James Croxton Spearman Sr.**, Dec. 26, 2020, Milton, Ga. Spearman played a year of football at Wofford before transferring to the University of South Carolina. He served in the U.S. Air Force, reaching the rank of captain. He had a long career in sales management in the life insurance industry, first in Chattanooga, Tenn., before relocating to Atlanta in 1971.

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